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# Farm and Ranch REVIEW

21 MAR 1955

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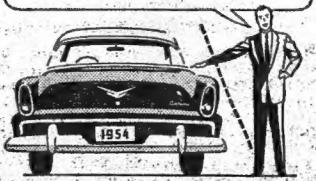
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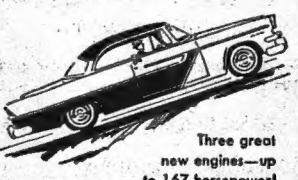


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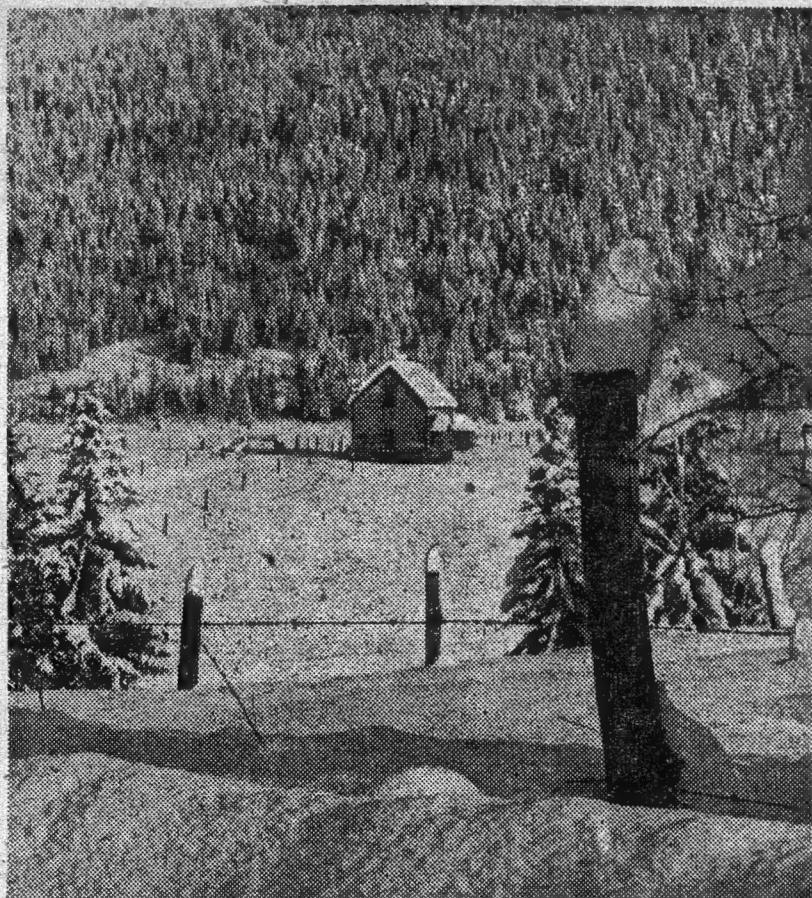
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This B.C. farm home was probably built back in 1905 when the Farm and Ranch was founded. This particular farm has been abandoned for some years.

## Farm and Ranch Review

706 - 2nd Avenue West, Calgary, Alberta

Vol. LI. Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson

James H. Gray, Editor

No. 3

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# Tiny pieces of nickel speed cabled words three times faster across the Atlantic

**1200 FEET DOWN**, on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, is a metal case. In it is an electronic amplifier. Electric signals, weak from the long journey by cable, are here amplified and reshaped into stronger, clearer signals. With this single installation the cable's capacity was increased from 50 to 167 words a minute.

**This is possible only because of the presence of tiny pieces of nickel in the amplifier's vacuum tube.**

For years now, communication between this Continent and the United Kingdom and Europe has been a problem. It was particularly serious during the war when communication channels were overloaded by Allied Governments, military and press.

The first of these amplifiers was installed recently by Western Union on the company's cable which stretches under the Atlantic from Bay Roberts, Newfoundland, to Penzance, England.



**THE NEW UNDERSEAS CABLE "BOOSTER"** being lowered to the ocean floor, where it will amplify trans-Atlantic signals—allowing us to get messages from Europe three times faster than before. This is possible only because of the use of tiny pieces of nickel in the amplifier's vacuum tube.



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# The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

## Why jump the gun on a dangerous drug?

WE'VE noticed some of the efforts that have been made lately to high pressure the Dominion Government into licensing the use of Stilbestrol as a feed supplement. This hormone can be administered in two ways: as a pellet implanted under the skin and by oral feeding in prepared feeds.

It has been used for some time in some areas of the United States and the claims made for it are sensational. It is said, for example, that it can make ordinary steers put on gains at the rate of over three pounds a day. So far the Canadian Government has not licensed the use of Stilbestrol in Canada, however. Why not?

Our readers may find at least part of the answer in the extracts which follow from a letter we received from a friend in the chemical business. The company in question is one of the very large American makers and sellers of animal ration supplements. It also does a big business in specialized farm chemicals. Here is what it has to say about Stilbestrol:

"We frankly feel that the hormone was approved too quickly for use in feeds here in the United States, and that the approval came without sufficient data on some of the possible effects. Quite a bit of data was gathered and submitted concerning the implanting of Diethylstilbestrol pellets under the skin, and on the oral feeding of the hormone in feeds. It has been demonstrated that side effects, such as udder development in steers, lower carcass quality, high tail heads and other abnormalities have been observed with the use of the drug. These, however, have been observed more readily with implanted pellet method of application than with the oral administration.

"Certainly, however, this drug was approved for use in feeds before adequate data was secured on some of the other ramifications of its use.

"For instance, what will happen if hogs are allowed to follow steers which are being fed a feed containing Diethylstilbestrol? Will there be enough of the hormone coming through in the feces of the steers to be harmful to the hogs? Will this drug carry over into the tissue of these hogs? What about the entrails of the steers being fed Diethylstilbestrol? If they should be used in tankage, or meat crops, would there be sufficient amounts of hormone remaining in the entrails of the steers which may be fed protein supplements made from these organs?

"And what about poultry following steers being fed hormone? What will the effect be on poultry? We must realize that once we have feed of this kind on any farm it is hard to control its usage. What would happen if a man ran out of dairy feed and said: 'Oh, well, I'll just feed them some

of this steer concentrate, it's probably about the same anyway.' What would that do to the dairy herd? Would production suffer and would the hormone come through in the milk?

"All these questions, and many more, were insufficiently answered here before they put this drug on the market."

This, we repeat, is from a manufacturer whose business is making and selling things like this sex hormone. If he was so concerned about the unanswered questions that he would not sell the stuff, that is surely an indication that it ought not to be licensed

yet in this country. The plain truth is that fooling around with sex hormones in animal feeds is a very dangerous thing to do. We know that hormone additives to poultry feeds caused some unfortunate effects to women who subsequently ate the poultry.

At the very best, the use of Stilbestrol does reduce the quality of the beef it is fed to. It seems to us that the beef cattle industry is courting disaster if it starts using this hormone before we have all the answers. Our beef today is the finest food that mankind can find. The consumers of beef know that, they buy it with complete confidence. The stupidest thing we could do would be to let a few feed lot operators risk bringing beef into ill repute because they wanted to jump the gun on a hormone supplement.

Then, too, this would not be the first time that some highly publicized American wonder drug tarnished badly when put to the test in Canada. We don't even know for sure that by feeding it we can increase our rate of gains with Canadian feedstuffs. Our hope is that the Canadian Government will not be stampeded into licensing the use of this hormone until it has all the answers to the secondary question which are raised in the letter we have reproduced above.

## More lean meat and less fat on steers

DOWN at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, they stumbled onto something last summer that may be of great significance to Prairie farmers. It was the discovery that steers that made the fastest gains in their feeding tests finished with the most lean meat. Steers that gained slowly, the poor doers, tended to run to fat.

There is by no means evidence available from these tests to start jumping to conclusions. About all that it does is point the direction which other experiments should take. Our hope is naturally that the station will get on with further experiments along this line with the least possible delay.

Anything that can be done to raise the red meat content of our livestock and reduce the fat content will cause financial gain for us all. Fat is what gives red meat its flavor. So to get good meat we have to fatten up our steers. Indeed, in order to put any lean meat on them we have to "fatten" them up. Once they get into the packing plants, all this surplus fat has to be cut off and disposed of for little or nothing. So the amount of feed that went into making that fat was wasted. If that feed had turned the same amount of fat into lean red meat, however, it would have added substantially to the value of the steer.

Much of the trouble the pure-bred beef herds have had with dwarfism indirectly stems from this fat-lean ratio. The demand of city consumers for smaller and definitely leaner meat caused breeders to go out after smaller cattle. Some of them bred their herds down too small. Yet as long as even the small cattle were high in fat and low on lean nothing was actually accomplished.

It would be silly of course to think that we could get animals that were all lean and carried no waste fat. But the Lethbridge tests seem to indicate that there may be some way in which the proportion of the feed that winds up as red meat may be

raised and the proportion that ends as fat may be lowered. What worries us a little about all this is how the farmer is going to profit from it.

Suppose that he concentrates on raising these fast gaining critters that have a higher proportion of lean meat. Under current marketing methods, the buyers won't know anything about that until long after the animals are bought and slaughtered. So why should a farmer bother about it? Why indeed? Perhaps the solution might be for some packers and farmers to do a little experimenting with rail-grading of beef carcasses. Meanwhile, let's hope they are on the right track at Lethbridge.

## Give-away hides and costly shoes

WE got a note from an Alberta reader a few days ago just after we came back from getting our shoes soled. The oftener we read the note the madder we got. The soles and heels cost us \$6.50, which is the standard price for the job. Inasmuch as our feet are on the small side they would hardly have used more than a twentieth of a hide for the soling. The heels were rubber.

Then along came that note from Mr. Frank Pearce of Wimborne, enclosing an invoice for a hide he had shipped to Calgary, together with a money order for 41 cents, which was his payment for the hide.

A whole hide, containing enough leather for Heaven only knows how many soles, bring the producer 41 cents. Eventually it is cleaned and tanned and treated and what not and a consumer in a city gets his shoes soled, for \$6.50. It seems to us that this very neatly captures in a nutshell everything that is wrong with our economy.

# Farm and Ranch Editorials

## Nobody can solve Russia's farming crisis

THE Russian government's firing of Premier Malenkov emphasized all over again that neither Communism nor Socialism can provide a nation with stable agricultural production. In its 30-odd years of existence, the Soviet Union has met and solved many a crisis. To have survived at all has been no mean accomplishment for so backward a country. But the agricultural crisis has changed but little from the time of Lenin and Trotsky until now. Nobody has yet succeeded in devising an edict that will get Russian agriculture into high gear.

From the very first, agriculture has been Russia's main problem and worst failure. Immediately after the revolution, which promised land to the peasants, the Communists took steps to get food produced. Lenin's "New Economic Policy" was put into effect to get peasants to produce and trade. They were encouraged to produce food and bring it to the cities and towns and barter it. For some years, the Russian peasants had it very good indeed.

Under Stalin, however, Lenin's policies were reversed. To mechanize the country and its industry, millions of new workers were required. The only pool available was on the farms. Agriculture was to be mechanized and collectivized; to be run as a well ordered factory. This would release millions of peasants for industrial employment while increasing Russian food production.

Stalin's attempt to collectivize agriculture probably cost the country upwards of 15,000,000 lives. It created a succession of crop failures and famines that persisted until the outbreak of World War Two. Great stretches of marginal land in Siberia were broken to grain. Every possible effort was made to make the Ukraine more productive. The country fluctuated between policies of cultivating the friendship of the peasants and harsh reprisals against the peasants.

The sorry truth is that agriculture is the one craft that does not lend itself to bureaucratic management. How well the land produces depends very largely on whether those who cultivate it are good farmers or poor farmers. It depends on soil management, on the climate and on green thumbs. It is the one craft where a dozen reasons for failure can be tendered and not even the most skilled bureaucrat can successfully refute them.

The solution to Russia's agricultural crisis has been staring at its leaders for over 30 years. That would be to adopt Lenin's slogan and turn the land over to the peasants. In other words, give Russia back to the people. Once the Russian farmers got into their stride, and started making full use of modern machine and modern methods, production would start to sky-rocket in Russia. There would have to be one proviso — that the producers would be entitled to the profit of their toil.

However, if Russian peasants prospered, even mildly, it would make them seem rich by comparison with everybody else. Everybody would want to desert the fac-

tories and get back to the farms. That's something that could never be tolerated. Russia cannot afford to adopt the only means by which a healthy agriculture can be created. So it has to go along, from one crisis to the next, in an endless war between the government bureaucrats and the farmers on the land.

★

## Easter Seals

AS Farm and Ranch readers know, we have never made it a practice to urge support of all the so-called charitable appeals that seem always to be campaigning for funds. We have a number of doubts about many of these campaigns. In the first place, we are by no means convinced that they are all necessary. In some cases they are wasteful ways of doing things. In some cases too much of what is given is frittered away in promotional expenses, executive salaries and under the heading of education.

All this is by way of a prelude to a suggestion that our readers will find the Calgary Women's Hospital Aid Society a most worthy source from which to get their Easter Seals. This is an old-fashioned sort of charity, the sort that has almost gone out of style. It is one without fancy offices, executive secretaries or paid officials of any kind. To belong to the society, the members must pay \$6 a month dues and undertake to do a heavy quota of work on behalf of crippled children who are hospitalized.

Each spring they add to their funds with a sale of Easter Seals. This campaign, however, is unique among charity appeals in this: All the money that is raised by sale of seals goes to the aid of crippled children. There are no deductions for advertising or campaign expenses. The women meet all expenses out of their own purses.

The Calgary women were the first to sponsor an Easter Seal campaign on the Prairies. Since then various other organizations have got into the act. In fact, in Alberta a late comer is now engaged in trying to put the Calgary women out of business.

It seems to us that this particular campaign offers the people of the West a chance to help a worthwhile cause that very badly needs help. By buying your Easter Seals from the Calgary women, regardless of where you live, you can say thanks for the wonderful work these women have been doing for 25 years on behalf of crippled children. You can be sure that your donation to charity goes to charity; and not to help maintain an executive secretary and a staff of supernumeraries. You can have a part in an old-fashioned charity in which the people who are doing the appealing all make their own substantial contributions to the fund.

How do you do all that? Pin a couple of dollars to a slip with your name and address on it and send it to Easter Seals, Box 280, Calgary, Alta.

## City schools boost margarine

THIS is an editorial in which we throw up our hands in complete disgust. You'd think by now that the people of our Prairie cities would understand that their economic welfare is tied in closely with the prosperity of agriculture.

At the moment there is a surplus of butter in the country. Unless it can be moved into consumption, it can mean a reduction in farm income of the dairy farmers who surround all our cities. So it is in their own interests to increase butter sales, butter consumption, and the habit generally of using butter wherever possible in the cities.

So what happens? Well, in all the junior high schools of Calgary the pupils who are taking economics are forced to use margarine in all their cooking and baking where butter is called for. The City of Calgary, which lives off the farmers as much as any city in Canada, is too miserly to provide its children with butter for their cooking lessons.

We are not concerned here with the few hundred pounds of butter sales that are lost in the schools. We are thinking of the lifetimes these pupils will spend preparing meals. They have been taught to use margarine. They have been sold on margarine as a fit food for themselves and their families. Year after year countless thousands of young city girls are taught that they should use margarine instead of butter. Is it any wonder that butter sales tend to decline while that of American vegetable oils made into margarine expands.

★

## Sportsman at work

WE are indebted to the Calgary Albertan for the latest episode in the child-lives of the Alberta bird and animal shooters. Once upon a time these fellows, "sportsmen" we think they are called, were content to do their wild-life slaughtering during a couple of months in the fall. Lately they've wanted to put mass blood-letting on a year-round basis. During the Fall they shoot birds, during the Winter they hunt coyotes with shotguns and during the Spring and Summer they go after crows and magpies.

All this was great for ammunition makers, for hunters' wives and for the hunters themselves. But it was rough on farm fences and farm livestock. "Sportsmen", however, like to fancy themselves as being "conservationists"; they say they would like to increase the numbers and well-being of all sorts of game. So at a recent meeting they invited an outstanding Alberta authority to talk to them about hawks and owls.

He told them that the attitude of the hunters toward owls and hawks was a century out of date. He said that owls and hawks did a great service for agriculture by feeding on mice and other crop destroying rodents. He urged that hawks and owls be given every possible protection so that they would be numerous enough to keep the mice, etc., in check.

So what did our "sportsmen" friends do? They passed a resolution asking the provincial government to establish an open season on certain hawks and owls!

Oh, brother!

# Ottawa's birthday party never got started

By BEN MALKIN

SEVERAL Canadian communities celebrated their centenaries during the past few months, the largest cities in this group being Ottawa and Windsor. Since their establishment a hundred years ago, these two Ontario municipalities have drawn far apart, although at the time of their birth both were merely wilderness settlements, on the edge of the frontier. Today, Ottawa produces laws, and Windsor produces cars, trucks, TV sets and salt, and it's a matter of opinion which city the country finds more useful.

A hundred years isn't long as the age of national capitals is measured, and although there are areas of Ottawa where the city is beginning to look her age, Canada's capital, on the whole, looks half finished. A great deal remains to be done to carry out the improvement schemes planned by the federal government, and a lot of empty space has to be filled in before the city will look completed. However, when it is considered that a hundred years ago Ottawa was a brawling little lumber town where even a character like Paul Bunyan would likely be considered a sissy, the capital hasn't done too badly.

Actually, Ottawa is more than a hundred years old. But it was not until 1854-55 that the town took the name which had originally been given to the river that flows past it, and which was one of the original Canadian pathways to the West. Before that, Ottawa was called Bytown, after Col. John By of the Royal Engineers, who directed the great engineering job that first brought Bytown — and later Ottawa — into existence.

After the war of 1812, the British authorities decided that an inland waterway from Kingston to Montreal was necessary, by-passing the St. Lawrence in this area, and giving the colony greater protection in case of a future attack from the United States. So Colonel By and his engineers were brought in to build the Rideau Canal, which would allow shipping to move from Kingston to the junction of the Rideau and Ottawa rivers, then down the Ottawa to the junction of the St. Lawrence, where the island of Montreal is formed. This done, the community that then grew up at the mouth of the canal, where it meets the Ottawa river, was called Bytown.

In the early days, Ottawa's livelihood was mainly derived from the forests to the north and west, especially white pine, and to a more limited degree from the fur traders on their way down river to Montreal. Those early days have never

been forgotten, and cannot be, for today great log rafts still come floating past Ottawa from up river and from the Gatineau, the wood being on its way to newsprint plants. There hasn't been a fur trader or a voyageur in these parts for some time though.

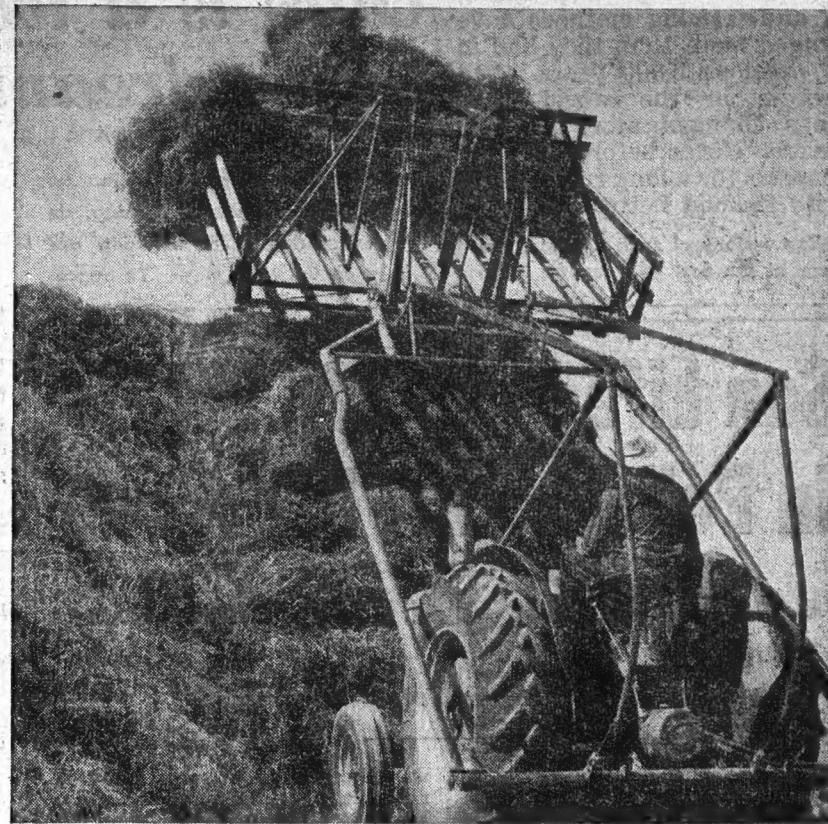
There wasn't any real celebration of the centenary in Ottawa, although there was a great deal of talk about one. Maybe it's because talk is cheap, and Ottawa, as a municipality, is always on the lookout for bargains. According to some reports, the celebration was called off because the army wouldn't let Miss Charlotte Whitton, the mayor, take the salute during a march past of one of the town's militia regiments. It's not what a militia regiment is for, the army said. In the subsequent hassle, plans for a celebration somehow got lost in the shuffle. However, nobody in Ottawa seemed desperately concerned, and evidently the nation minded even less. And so the nation's capital starts on its second hundredth year.

## Free information on farm buildings

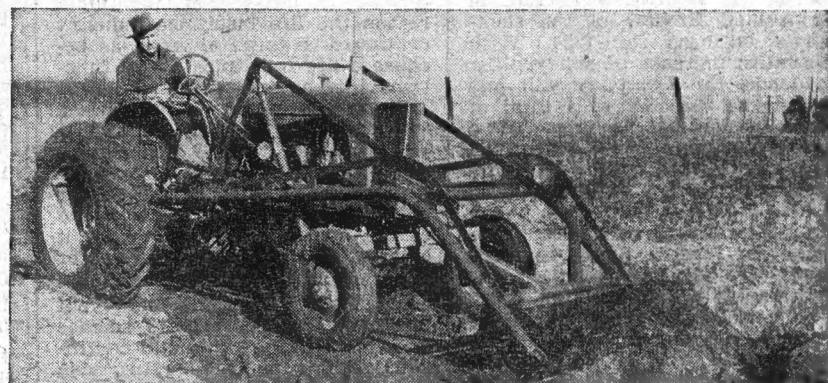
HELPS for planning farmsteads, farm homes, barns, sheds, poultry housing, grain and feed storage, vegetable and fruit storage, water and sewage systems, and electrification of farmsteads are available from many sources. In addition, information is available on such items as ventilation, insulation, vapor barriers, heating, concrete work, painting, treating of fence posts with preservatives, using glues for rafters, and a host of other topics related to farm buildings.

The Federal and Provincial Governments, manufacturers, distributors, professional engineers and architects, retail lumber yards, hardware and machinery outlets, the radio and "TV", and the publishers of farm papers, magazines and books are some of the sources of information in which a farmer may be interested.

See your "Ag. Rep." or District Agriculturist, or phone, wire or write to him or to the Extension Agricultural Engineering Dept. at the University at Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon, or Winnipeg. The Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current, Sask., will supply drawings, bulletins, and leaflets dealing with various aspects of farm buildings. The bank managers will advise regarding farm loans for new building and farm improvements.



This NEW IDEA-HORN "LS" loader with push-off stacker attachment has a strong but light-weight frame of hot-rolled, butt-welded steel tubing. Joints are coped and welded. Mount or dismount with 4 tapered pins.



Here is the type of job where below-ground-level full breakaway power pays off. This is the NEW IDEA-HORN "50" conversion loader, available now with single ram cylinders at new, low price. All models have low clearance.

## Why New Idea-Horn Loaders deliver extra "breakaway" power

To work your loader at its full rated capacity you need greater "breakaway" power than lifting power. The NEW IDEA-HORN hydraulic loader delivers up to 2500 lbs. power at or below ground level. You can break loose packed, wet, or frozen manure and dirt; buck really big loads of hay onto your stacker and get it up off the ground to the top of the stack; clean out ditches and maintain terraces.

10 easy-on, interchangeable attachments can be used to do a wider range of jobs than any other loader made. (Manure bucket, dirt bucket,

snow scoop, hydraulic pitch control, dozer blade, angle dozer blade, buck rake, push-off stacker, loader boom, grapple fork).

Low-cost mounting crates fit NEW IDEA-HORN models to more than 100 different tractors. This includes large standard, small standard, large and small row-crop, Ford, Ferguson, Allis Chalmers "WD" and small track-type tractors.

Your community NEW IDEA dealer will be glad to demonstrate this power-packed multi-use loader.

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IN the last 50 years, farming and farming methods have changed more than they had in the previous 5,000 years. And nowhere in the world have things changed more than in Canada. Never before have the prospects for a long run of prosperity seemed better.

Expressions of such sentiment in face of the sort of year we have

# Ours is a world they never dreamed about

By JAMES H. GRAY

been through may seem foolhardy. But it is important in farming, as in everything else, to keep our eyes on the long view. To appre-

## Sun Life Pays \$26 Million In Policyholder Dividends

*Cost of insurance reduced. Nearly \$700 million of new business sold last year, largest amount of any Canadian company.*

For the sixth consecutive year, the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada is adopting new dividend scales which will substantially reduce the cost of insurance to the holders of its participating policies, according to an announcement by George W. Bourke, President, in his Annual Review of the Company's business for 1954. With this latest increase of policyholder dividends, the Company will pay out in the year ahead a total of approximately \$26 million — an increase of more than \$2 million over the previous year. New life insurance sold last year amounted to nearly \$700 million, an increase of \$120 million over 1953 and again the largest figure reported by any Canadian life company. Included in this new business figure is \$239 million of group insurance, representing an increase of \$68 million over the previous year. Benefits paid by Sun Life during the year amounted to \$134 million, and total benefits paid by the Company since its organization in 1865 now stand at \$2,866 million.

### \$6 BILLION IN FORCE

Other highlights of the Report include a total of life insurance in force amounting to more than \$6,000,000,000. During 1948 the Company passed the \$4 billion mark and, during 1952, topped \$5 billion. The Company has now passed another milestone and the two-year period taken to accumulate the last billion dollars contrasts sharply with the 54 years required for the first billion. Group insurance included in the 1954 figure amounts to \$1,996 million, an increase during the year of 13.9%. The proportion of insurance and annuities in force in the various countries where the Company operates is now as follows: Canada, 47%; United States, 36%; Great Britain and other Commonwealth countries, 14%; elsewhere throughout the world, 3%.

### MORTGAGE LOANS UP

Assets of the Company now stand at \$1,876 million, an increase of \$46 million over 1953. Mortgage loans increased by more than any other type of investment, in keeping with Sun Life's policy of striving to further the economic and social interests of the community consistent with sound investment principles. During the year, new mortgage loans made by the Company totalled \$83,000,000. Mortgage investments now total \$323 million, mostly in individual homes.

In commenting on the general economic situation, Mr. Bourke remarked that a year ago there

was uncertainty in some quarters regarding the outlook for 1954. Despite the keen competition that existed among the various companies, however, 1954 was a year of expansion for life insurance and particularly for Sun Life. Mr. Bourke declared that the main reason the life insurance industry continued to forge ahead, was because a life insurance policy functions like a good investment. It increases in value, it provides a return on the investment and it has a market value which can be used to provide cash for emergencies and a retirement fund for old age. Moreover it does what no other investment can do — it creates an immediate estate for the protection of home and family.

Mr. Bourke stressed the recent improvements in medical science with the ensuing rapid and continuous decline in death rates. He pointed out that accidents now account for a substantial proportion of death from all causes, especially in the younger age groups, and that Sun Life experience shows that approximately one-half of all death claims under age thirty are the results of accidents, while accidents are now the third most frequent cause of death at all ages, following heart disease and cancer. In particular, he mentioned automobile accidents which account for about one-half of all accidental deaths. The hazard from this source will become greater unless accompanied by a steady improvement in the safety habits of the motoring public. Death claim records are full of tragic accidents which elementary safety precautions could have avoided.

### OUTLOOK FOR 1955

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Bourke said that Canada's national resources should continue to support thriving industries which may well set new standards of prosperity in 1955. There should be no abatement of the national confidence, for a steady progress beneficial to everyone is to be expected. "Canada's future depends not only on its economic heritage, but on the use to which that heritage is put," he concluded. "The tasks ahead may be different. We may have to adjust to new patterns and new demands, but I am confident we will meet the challenge."

A copy of Sun Life's complete 1954 Annual Report to Policyholders, including the President's review of the year, is being sent to each policyholder, or may be obtained from any of the 100 branch offices of the Company throughout North America.

ciate what we have done and what the prospects are, let's go back to 1905 and the founding of the Farm and Ranch Review.

One of the first editorials in the magazine advocated the invention of a milking machine. Until that was achieved, it said, the dairy business would never prosper because mass production of milk would be impossible.

Of all the chores on a farm, milking was probably the most unpopular. The milkers had to make their lives conform to the needs of the cows. As it happened, this chore was usually palmed off on the women. Milking probably drove more young people off farms and into cities than any other single cause.

### Most Profitable

Today, with milking machinery and modern equipment, the dairy farm is one of the most prosperous of all farms. We have improved our cattle to the point where they yield twice as much as they did 50 years ago. Even the 12-hour milking cycle is being abandoned in favor of 14 and 10 which will make things even better for dairy farmers.

The story of the revolution in dairy farming is typical of all other forms of farming. It can be summarized in a sentence: machines have replaced the human spine and arms in farming operations.

Does jockeying a tractor over a rough field jolt the shoulders? Let those who ever drove a team and walked behind a set of drag harrows start making the comparisons! Today's tractors have standing platforms to relieve the tedium of sitting down. That's one of the main difference between farming in 1955 and 1905. One you can do sitting down and the other was done standing up.

We've been hearing a lot lately about farm problems. Our pioneer ancestors wouldn't know what we were talking about. Let's not worry about their first years, when they were living in sod houses, trying to get their breaking done in late springs with oxen so they could get a few acres of oats in. Instead let's take on the problems of the older farm communities.

Everywhere in the West, in the days of Red Fife wheat, the harvest ran a neck and neck race with killing frost. The growing season was too short for Red Fife, and frosted wheat was a continual problem. Yet it was a minor one, compared to the others.

When the farmer started to market with his wheat, he was like a man running a gantlet. There were no weights and measures acts in those days; so not too many of the scales were honest. The farmer who want-

ed to protect himself was forced to buy and install his own scales at home.

When he got to the local elevator, he had to take the price and grade and weight offered. He might have to wait for days for payment, too.

The right to load his own grain in a box car and ship it to Fort William had not yet been won. Indeed as late as 1908 the farmers of Asquith, Sask., rioted in an attempt to seize box cars from the elevators. As the freight train pulled into town, they threw their bags of grain into the empty cars in an effort to establish their right to them. They failed, but it was not long before the railways were forced to permit farmers to load and consign their own grain.

Back in 1905, there were no experimental farms in the West and no agricultural colleges. There was a coal famine every winter, and the worse the winter, the worse the famine. For five months of the years the entire attention of many farm families was devoted to avoiding freezing to death.

The grain farmers fought for 40 years to obtain the sort of marketing system they wanted. They first agitated for government elevators to break the "elevator combines". Then they organized farmer-owned companies. Finally they set up their Wheat Pools, and it took two World Wars to give us the Canadian Wheat Board on a permanent basis.

Despite all their liabilities, grain farmers could occasionally strike it rich. Not so the livestock people for the first decade of the century was one of livestock depression. Horse farmers did well. But those who raised beef cattle and hogs lived on the verge of bankruptcy.

### No Markets

There was no market in Canada for the beef the West could raise. The Farm and Ranch agitated for opening of the British market to western feeder cattle. It argued we could grow the frames cheaply out here, ship them to England for fattening and finishing. Trouble was that the British had a law that imported cattle had to be slaughtered immediately. By the time Western cattle had made the journey, they were in no shape for killing.

Today there is a market in Canada for most of the meat we produce. What is more, our population is rising at the rate of 400,000 a year so that each year more Canadians are available to eat Canadian farm produce.

A good test of the distance we have come is this: The farmers don't hate the packers any more! There was a time when the pioneer meat packers were denounced by name at every farm meeting in the West. They belonged to that select group of public ogres that was composed of the railway tycoons, the bankers and mortgage companies, the distillers.

the elevator operators, and the eastern manufacturers.

Farmers were good haters in those days: they put their heart and all their native eloquence into it. Today the farmers don't hate anybody with any great gusto. One by one, the causes of their grievances have been rooted out and destroyed. A farmer today can send his grain to market with the youngest son who can drive a truck, and be confident of getting a square deal. The same is true of his livestock. That is a superb measure of the distance we have travelled in 50 years toward an honest economy.

But none of these accomplishments compare with the gains that have been made in the farm home. Here there has been a real progress.

#### End of Slavery

No longer is there slavery in the farm homes of the West. No longer is the farm mother chained to the iron cook stove at harvest time. We have still got a long way to go. Let's admit that. But the gulf that separates the best farm kitchen from the worst today is far wider than it was back in 1905.

Today it is possible to have hot and cold running water tapped into the kitchen. With electricity, it is possible for a farm mother to enjoy comfort and conveniences that the Czar of Russia could not command back in 1905. Even without electricity from a central station, thousands of farms have been electrified by windchargers and gasoline engines.

Even without electricity, changes have been possible. The combine and tractors have ended the big influx of harvest help. Where extra cooking has to be done, oil and propane have largely supplanted the old coal and wood stove.

Similarly, oil has come more and more into popularity as a replacement of coal in heating farm homes. No longer must farm people fight their way into town and home again with coal. An oil tank or propane gas tank in their yards will take care of their heating problems.

From being a place to get away from with the greatest possible haste; the farm is now becoming a magnet for the young people of the West. Over the whole area, the work of Four-H Clubs, and other young people's activities, has done much to instill an appreciation of farming into young farm people. By taking as much of the drudgery as possible out of farm work, the farm is becoming much more attractive. The main motives for fleeing from the farm are rapidly being removed.

#### Inventive Age

If power farming has brought new problems, it has solved most of the old ones. We are now able to harvest our crops in all but the most unusual years. As quickly as new problems arise, a new gadget is invented to treat it.

Many of the worst weeds that infested the fields of the farm-

ers of 1905 can now be easily controlled by chemical sprays. Our knowledge of how to combat the others grows apace.

In the field of crops and crop management, great strides have been made. We know for sure how wind and water erosion can be controlled. Through trial and error we have found out the best methods of managing summerfallow in the different soil and climatic conditions found in the West.

We are raising far better hogs and poultry today than we did in 1905, better for the producer in point of profits, and better for the consumer in point of meat quality. Our beef breeds are better animals all around than they used to be. We know a lot more about animal nutrition and animal health than we used to. We have medicines now for treatment of many diseases where none existed in the old

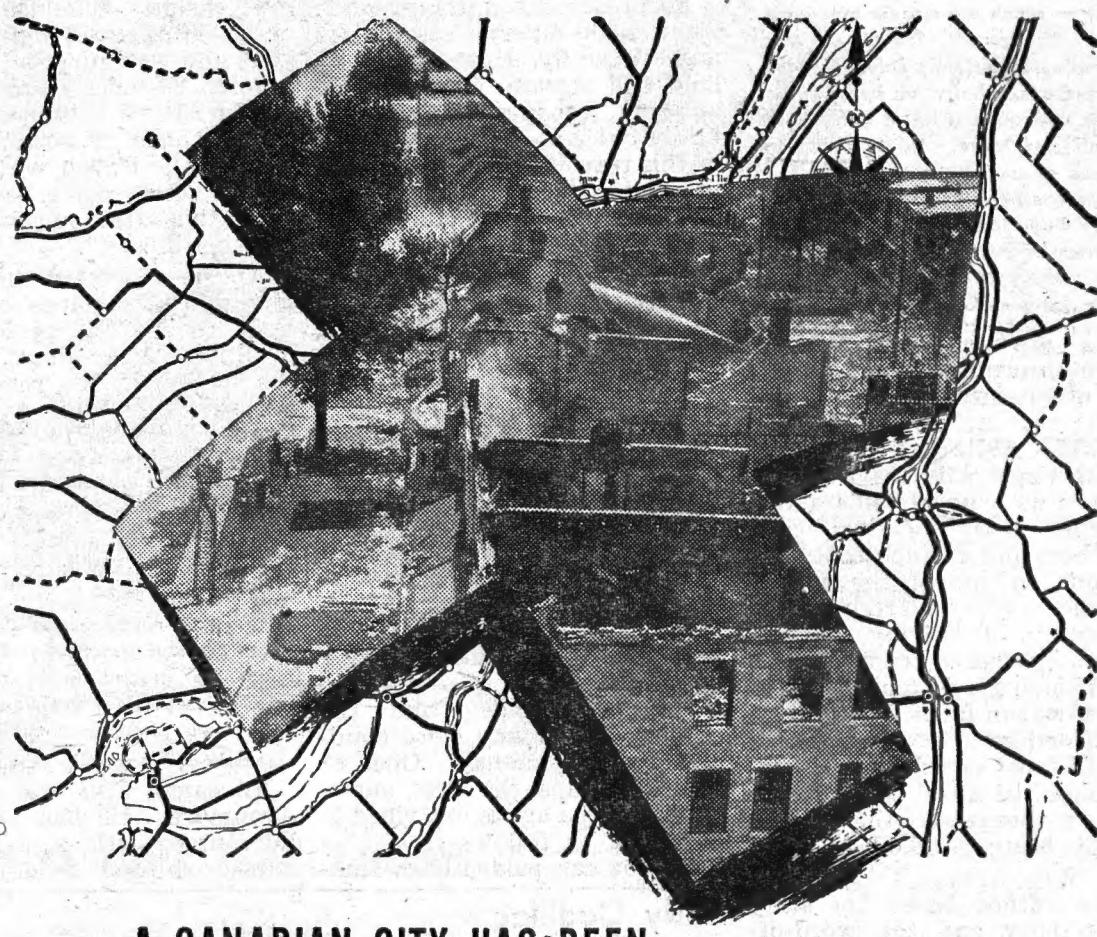
days.

Over most of the West, we have made an outstanding success in growing the crops best suited to the locality. We've diversified beyond the dreams of the settlers of 1905; and this process is hardly begun. We've got markets for our livestock at profitable prices right here in Canada. We've got a Wheat Board to handle our grain. Our yards are stocked with the finest machinery ever devised by man. No matter what we grow, we've farmer organizations to handle it for us. And we have private firms competing with them and doing an excellent job of it.

What the farmers of the West have today, in plain truth, is an environment, a way of life, a standard of living that no pioneer farmer of 1905 would have believed possible if he had dreamed about it!



For Farm Improvement Loans,  
see  
•  
THE  
**ROYAL BANK  
OF CANADA**



## A CANADIAN CITY HAS BEEN *Wiped out...*

During the past 20 years, automobile accidents have taken the lives of 37,000 Canadians—the entire population of a fair-sized city. A half-million more have been injured.

To meet the staggering cost of traffic accidents, the automobile insurance business this year will pay out more than \$80,000,000. Beyond this, insurance companies will do everything possible to stem the rising toll of automobile accidents—by offering the safe driving incentive of lower insurance premiums for accident-free car owners and through safety work and public education aimed at making drivers more aware of the perils of modern-day motoring.



### ALL CANADA INSURANCE FEDERATION

on behalf of more than 200 competing companies writing  
Fire, Automobile and Casualty Insurance.

EVERYONE knows, at least everyone who hears, or reads, the propaganda coming out of Alberta's capital, that Edmonton is the self-styled oil-capital of Canada. Probably not many know, though, that Edmonton once aspired to be the gateway to the great Northwest. The gateway to the Yukon and to Alaska. Not by air, as it undoubtedly is today, but by land and water. And not by car or truck via the Alaska highway, but by foot, by canoe, by dog-team, ox-cart, or any means available.

This was during the Klondike gold rush. In 1897 some Edmonton organization, oozing with civic pride, apparently put out a pamphlet which was widely distributed. It was labelled : KLONDIKE OFFICIAL GUIDE, and ballyhooed the "Edmonton Trail, Edmonton Overland Route," and carried, in part, the following sheer fiction :

"The shortest, cheapest and best way to reach the richest goldfields ever discovered. Travel in any direction is perfectly safe. No fear of Indians, plenty of fish in the river and quite a lot of game both small and large. No hardship to speak of need be anticipated. The route has been in use by the Hudson's Bay Company for years and sportsmen travel through our northern country at all seasons of the year for pleasure."

We are indebted for the above information, and for all the other information in this piece, to a book, WILD HORSES AND GOLD, by Elizabeth Page. Miss Page's book, written as a novel, tells a fascinating story of two cow-punchers and a ranch cook who set out on one of the wildest schemes ever undertaken; the adventure of driving 75 wild horses (gathered from the hills of Wyoming), 7 mules, and a chuck-wagon from Wyoming to the Klondike. This, as it turned out, ill-fated expedition was undertaken because of a rumor that a horse in the Yukon would bring \$400.00 in good gold coin.

The author bases her story on a diary and the word-of-mouth details supplied by a member of this party (then an old man) with whom she became acquainted. Later she did all possible research in the matter, interviewing and writing veteran officials of the (then) North West Mounted Police, the Hudson's Bay Company and so on. She made a trip over most of the country involved seeking out and talking with every old-timer who might add a fact to the tale.

Incredible and exciting as they were, we haven't the space to deal with the adventures, hardships and frustrations of our horse friends except to relate as a matter of interest that the party reached Dawson in 1899. They arrived broke, exhausted and very nearly starved, their equipment lost or abandoned, with one saddle horse and two mules. They had

## Edmonton to the Yukon — biggest swindle of them all

— by Ivan Helmer —

left Edmonton with 53 sound horses and 7 mules.

Any such thing as an "Edmonton Trail" to the Klondike was pure nonsense. The mounted police of the day had blazed trails a few hundred miles north, and northwest of Edmonton and that was it. An experienced bushman, or trapper, familiar with the country and conditions no doubt could make such a trip. Even so it would be long and arduous and the traveller would have to have his share of good luck. To travel by wagons, or other vehicles, or to trail herds into the Yukon was impossible.

From Edmonton to Dawson is about 1,200 miles as straight as a plane can fly. How far it is by land and stream, covered by a stranger, goodness knows. Certainly twice as far and the bulk of this travelling was to be done in winter, when the muskegs would be frozen. To quote from Miss Page's book:

"Surprisingly little has been written about the McKenzie basin, but of an overland route from the Peace to the Yukon there was apparently nothing at all, although maps published in 1897 for the edification of prospective Klondikers showed a nice red line leading straight from one to the other with a pleasing disregard for the ranges of the Continental Divide."

The banks of the North Saskatchewan, at Edmonton, have likely never seen queerer sights than some of the outfits making preparations to go into the Northwest. Aside from the pathetic side many were comical and ridiculous. One of these, perhaps the first snowmobile of the age is described in our book as follows :

"A box car, evidently of ama-

teur make and equipped with broad flat-rimmed wheels, was hitched to a strange engine, somewhat like a locomotive except that it had in front a huge wheel or roller, thickly covered with spikes. The interior was arranged with the owner's freight neatly piled in one end and their living quarters at the other. The tender was filled with coal and the owners planned to pick up the necessary fuel enroute. In the words of one of this thing's owners, "The engine alone set us back twenty-five hundred dollars. But we'll save more than that in the time we make getting to the gold fields. She turns over about 50 miles an hour running free, and we figure she ought to develop 20 miles in deep snow, maybe 25. It will revolutionize the methods of getting to the Klondike. If you want to see her in action come back about three this afternoon when we'll have up steam."

At the appointed time steam was up and a large crowd on hand to see the performance.

"Stand away boys," called the engineer. He reached for the throttle. With a jerk the front roller began to revolve and the snow arose in clouds. Louder and faster grew the engine's snorts. Higher and further flew the snow. The box car was finally barely visible, and unmoving.

Well, to make a long story short this monster practically dug itself into the ground, never moved a foot (except sideways), and unless the town planning commission, or somebody, moved it, is still there.

In camp also was a Lord Avonmore. He had arrived in Edmonton with a carload of horses shipped from Eastern

Canada (some said from England) and since arriving had bought 65 more. Gossip had it that there were 16 young aristocrats in the party. They had carefully gathered workers; animal and human.

Avonmore was supposed to have crossed the Sahara and knew the score. He had purchased two fabulously priced dog teams as well. He had hired sixteen servants. He had a village of tents, to take care of the servants, his companions and for living, cooking, and so on. According to rumor there was a keg of whiskey on nearly every toboggan, and two pack horses carried nothing but toilet paper.

But all the travellers did not have this sort of gear. They travelled on foot, by cart, by dog-team; even horses and buggies were seen on "the trail" in summer. That most were doomed to disappointment, or death, is certain.

To quote Miss Page again:

"The official report of the North West Mounted Police for 1898 states that a 'few' men came through that fall. A member of the force, in Dawson at the time, says the number was less than twelve. And he adds that only thirty more arrived in 1899 having been two years on the way. All the other thousands did not die, for some turned back before it was too late, but it is safe to say that for every man lost on the White and Chilcotin passes hundreds perished on the Edmonton Trail. From the point of view of tragedy it deserves remembrance."

So without any trail at all, without regard for, or ignorant of the awful insurmountable mountains that lay ahead; with no conception of the treacherous muskegs, the great rivers and lakes, the suicidal rapids, the steep, rocky canyons, the immense wind swept plains, or the dense bush lands that barred the way; without any understanding of the scarcity of food or the wild bitter weather to be encountered; without adequate equipment and with only the crudest kind of guess-work maps, amateurs by the tens of dozens drove into the wilderness, "clean mad for the muck called gold".

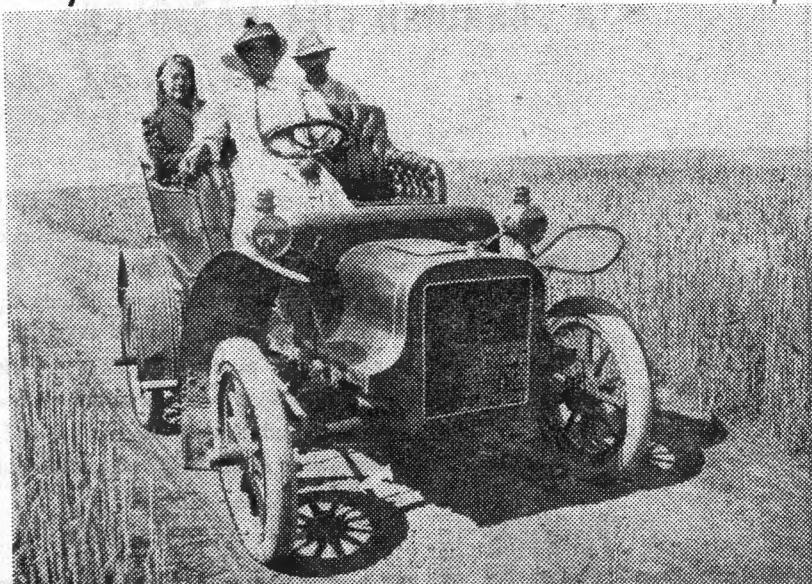
They were off on a 2,000 or 3,000-mile trail of misery, heartache and failure. Off on a trek that would awe today's most rugged individuals travelling by army tank, with bulldozers up ahead and reinforcements bringing up the rear.

That anyone ever reached the Klondike over this route was a marvel. That anyone would lure greenhorns into such a deathtrap, for the sake of selling a few supplies, is beyond comprehension.

Edmonton, during the Klondike gold fever, was indeed the "jumping-off place" of the fabulous northland.

NOTE :—Wild Horses and Gold, by Elizabeth Page, 1932, Farrar & Rinehart, New York.

### Early Cadillac

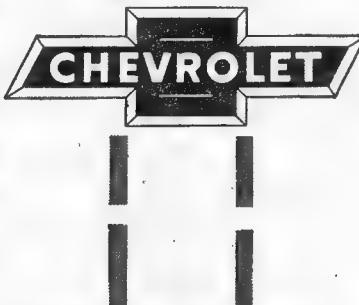


Here are the Myricks of Davidson, Sask., who pioneered in the use of power equipment in their neighborhood. The driver is Rush L. Myrick and Mrs. Myrick is seated immediately behind him. The other passenger is not identified. The picture was taken in 1906.

# The Choice is Yours in Chevrolet

*A Great New Valve-in-head*

# V8

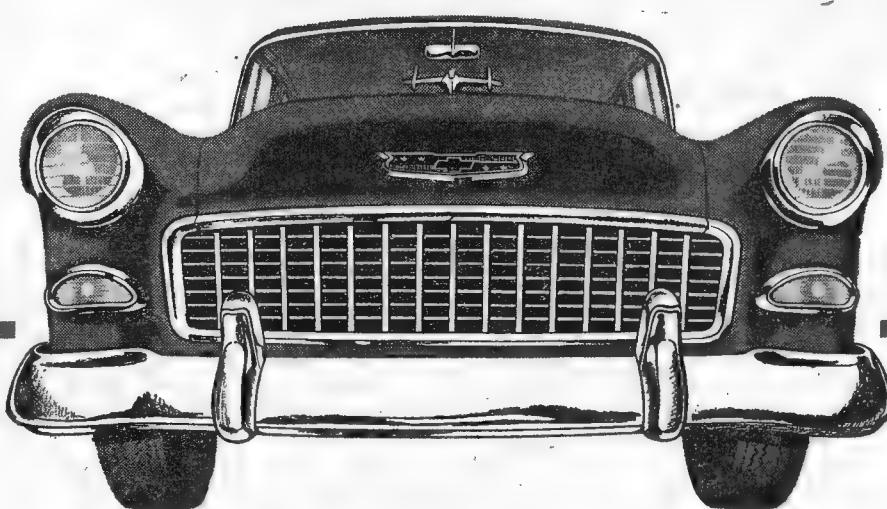


# 6

*A Great New Valve-in-head*

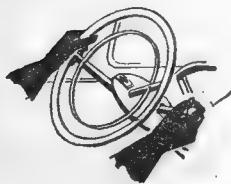
The proudest achievement of the world's valve-in-head leader, "Turbo-Fire" V8 with 162 or 180 h.p. Super-efficient 8 to 1 compression ratio, wear-reducing oversquare cylinders, fuel-saving high turbulence combustion chambers — plus many more engineering advances enable "Turbo-Fire" to outperform other engines with higher power ratings.

Economy with abundant power as only the valve-in-head leader achieves it! That's the new 136 h.p. "Blue Flame" 6. Only Chevrolet offers super 6-cylinder performance with all these features. A sparkling 7.5 to 1 compression ratio, oil-lubed hydraulic valve lifters, completely new cooling system, new air dome fuel pump, new power-jet carburetor, plus many more exciting engineering advances.



**Whatever your choice you get these...**

and over 55 more  
brilliant new features



#### Choice of Transmissions

Chevrolet lets you enjoy the type of transmission you like best with either engine choice.

You can have new heavy-duty Synchro-Mesh, new Touchdown Overdrive\*, or new, fully-automatic Powerglide\*. Chevrolet offers performance suited to your preference.

# 12 VOLTS

#### 12 Volt Ignition on all Models

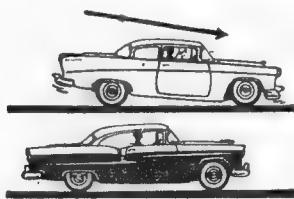
Fast starts in cold weather! Sure ignition for high speeds! Reserve power for automatic equipment! These are a few of the reasons why you should be sure you get a 12 volt battery. No car is up-to-date without this most important feature!

\*Optional at extra cost



#### Quadrupoise Ride

Chevrolet floats over the bumps and jolts of the country roads and whisks around tight corners with the ease and fine balance of the highest priced cars. You'll have to try Chevrolet's Quadrupoise Ride to believe its amazing stability and comfort.



#### No-Dip Braking

Heads-up stops! That's the real advantage of this wonderful, brand new feature. You have full control of the car even in sudden braking and you never feel you're being pitched out of your seat.



#### Motoramic Styling

What can we say about styling that you won't find out faster from one quick glance? Chevrolet combines a continental flair with an eager compact sportiness. And the colour choice is nothing less than dazzling. But please see Chevrolet for yourself soon at your local dealer's.

## Choose Chevrolet -- Get the best

A GENERAL MOTORS VALUE

BETWEEN the year 1821, when seven imported pigs wrapped in buffalo robes to keep them from freezing, arrived at old Fort Garry, and 1944 when the West produced two-thirds of Canada's record output of bacon, a lot of pig history was made. For much of that time, however, a pig was a pig, irrespective of color or shape and it wasn't until 1921 that a concerted effort was made to adopt a national standard for type.

Today, the bacon pig with its long and smooth sides and high percentage of lean to fat, enjoys almost unanimous Canadian approval; but it was not always thus. As the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were being created in 1905 and the first issues of the Farm and Ranch Review were going into circulation, no agricultural matters came in for more discussion in the waiting rooms of livery stables across the new country than sure cures for colic in horses and the particular type and breed of pig best suited to the needs of western farms.

The lard breeds of United States origin were popular and many people saw the Duroc Jersey, Poland China and Chester White as the breeds of the future. Some of the early fairs offered classes for as many as seven and eight breeds and the Pig Section took on the appearance of a menagerie. Even such unusual strains as the Mule Foot with a single and undivided hoof on each foot, made its appearance from time to time between 1905 and 1920.

In one of the first issues of the Farm and Ranch Review there appeared a letter from a young man who had recently come from the State of Iowa to take a homestead at Duhamel; his name was Lew Hutchinson and his letter was one of the clearest calls to be heard for the adoption of the bacon pig rather than the extremely fat type.

Mr. Hutchinson who, since that time, has given 50 years of outstanding agricultural leadership, including a stint as president of the Alberta Swine Breeders' Association and 30 years as a director of the Alberta Wheat Pool, followed up with an announcement that he was in a position to sell breeding pigs of a kind that he considered to be most appropriate. His idea of a good and profitable pig was made quite clear; the good one should be muscular and have the length of sides of an approved bacon pig but not extreme like some of the specimens that had already given the bacon pig a bad name.

"They are lengthy, thick-fleshed fellows," he wrote, "and although they can't go through the cracks of a picket fence or outrun a horse, they are the profitable, easy feeding kind and if given the chance, will finish up with the required percentage of lean and fat that

# Pigs and pork for fifty years

By GRANT MAC EWAN

makes the bacon hog. When I say length, I don't refer to legs and snout."

The statement was one which could stand the test of time rather better than most of those made about pigs at that period. It was one with which pioneer breeders A. B. Potter of Langbank in Saskatchewan, and Archie McPhail of Brandon, Manitoba, would agree but nevertheless, the arguments about type were just getting started and more than a decade was to elapse before Canadian producers adopted the bacon type with some semblance of unanimity.

Agricultural leaders were beginning to see the British market for bacon as a challenge to Canadian producers. It was plainly obvious that unless this country's surplus in pork products conformed to the British consumer's ideals, Canada could have no hope of competing with Denmark and some other exporting countries.

As thousands of American settlers took land in Alberta and elsewhere in the new West, most of them brought their traditional ideas about types and breeds with them and the bacon pig was making indifferent headway until pig improvement was accepted as a matter of public responsibility.

Government grading of all live pigs marketed was instituted in 1921. It seemed bold as a bold step, but essential if Canada was to become a successful exporter. Now, pigs qualifying for the top or "select" grade would command a premium of ten per cent over the second grade, called "thick smooth". The new terms were added to farm vocabularies and soon became about as familiar as words like, "Number One Northern" and "2 C.W.". The new grading system helped the Yorkshire breed to win friends and gradually and rather quickly it gained almost universal adoption, while the multi-colored pigs and those individuals possessing "beer-barrel figures", lost their former prominence.

Of the pigs registered in Canada in 1915, approximately 32 per cent were Yorkshires. Ten years later, the Yorkshire breed accounted for 69 per cent of the pure-bred pigs registered and in 1933, the corresponding figure exceeded 90 per cent. It did not follow, however, that the controversies about type had passed completely. Breeders saw styles in Yorkshires change several times. One of the most exciting arguments concerned heads; long heads gave place to short ones and some of those seen on show pigs in the '30s would have looked better on Berkshires or

Middle Whites than on Yorkshires. For a time, none but boars with short heads were selling but an error was recognized and producers acknowledged that those very short and dished faces were inconsistent with long sides, light shoulders and the desired leanness in carcass.

In 1927, the premium for "selects" was changed from ten per cent to one-half cent per pound, and, in 1929, the "thick smooth" grade was dropped with the top three grades becoming, "select", "bacon" and "butcher". By 1940, Canada's pig industry was ready for the next important step; in that year, rail grading which had been available to producers on an optional basis from 1935, became the official and only method to be used.

The absence of a testing plan for breeding pigs was seen as a weakness in the Canadian program. Weakness aimed at better Wiltshire sides and in 1928, a national scheme known as Advanced Registration was inaugurated. Some of Denmark's success in bacon production was attributed to the pioneer testing policies in that country and the Canadian plan was to assess productivity in pure-bred sows, rate of gain in growing pigs and carcass quality.

Advanced Registration failed to capture the enthusiasm of western breeders as much as officials might have hoped, but the fact remained that it embraced a sound principle. Breeders needed more information about the extent to which economical production and superior carcasses were inherent in their strains.

In the campaign to achieve better bacon for both export and domestic markets, western growers witnessed an experiment of an unusual nature, between 1934 and 1940. It was an attempt to determine if the native breed of Denmark would benefit Canada's position and in May of 1934, the Canadian government imported eight boars and 59 sows of the Landrace breed. Owing to certain restrictions, the purchase of experimental stock was made in Sweden rather than Denmark, but the test lost none of its significance. The study continued for six years with the government retaining complete control of the stock so that when it was finally concluded that the Landrace was not required in Canada's pig industry, the imported breed was completely liquidated.

The western farmer's record in pig production did not run

evenly. When wheat prices were favorable and there was grain to sell, interest in pigs suffered decline. But when large volumes of unsaleable or cheap feed grains piled up on farms, pigs won new friends. Here was a class of stock that farmers could get into and out of in a hurry and farmers went in and out with little compunction. A herd of pigs was easily and readily liquidated on the public market when the hired man quit his job or the farmer himself decided he would do fewer chores. At the same time, with sows coming to breeding age at six months and capable of producing two big litters a year, multiplication could suggest the performance of the proverbial rabbit.

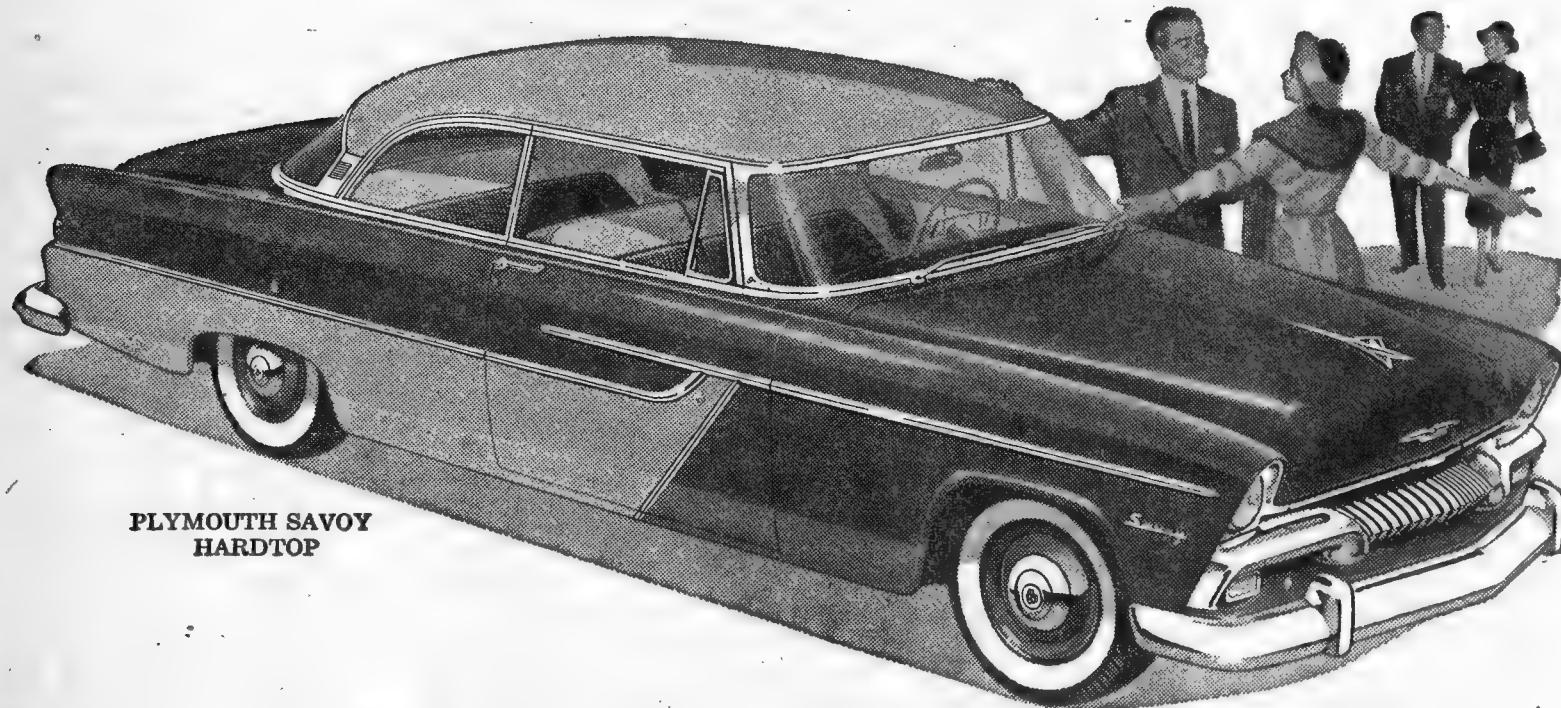
The eastern critic said the western pig growers were "in-and-outers". Perhaps there was good reason for the comment but when the war-time call went out for more Canadian "Bacon for Britain", they were the western farmers whose response made the Canadian record so dramatic. Canada's total inspected slaughterings in 1944, the year of maximum production, included 8,766,441 pigs, to permit an export of 692,301,300 pounds of bacon. As shown at the time, about two-thirds of the Canadian pigs reared and marketed in that peak year were from western farms.

The pig rose to new heights of social eminence in that "Bacon for Britain" period. Everybody was his friend. It was both patriotic and profitable to be raising pigs. Farmers had about all the pigs they could handle while the doctor and butcher and real estate man had pigs in the yards or somewhere in the country. Lawyers left their offices a little early to see or feed their pigs and even ministers were known to cut their sermons short because they had chores to do.

It had been supposed that Canada's war-time position in bacon export would ensure a more prominent trade with the great importing market. It wasn't to be, however; after 1950, United Kingdom found it could buy bacon at a lower price elsewhere and Canadian pork products ceased to move that way while prices to Canadian producers continued to rise until a 200-pound pig on a western market could command a little over \$55 in July of 1951. It was a far cry from the five-dollar bill that a pig of the same size would bring just 18 years before. Of course, the pigs of 1933 had been eating barley having a farm value of ten cents a bushel while those of 1951 were consuming feed worth two and one-half cents a pound.

However the pig population varied through the years, the Canadian appetite for pork behaved with remarkable steadiness. Per capita consumption, reacting to high retail prices, touched an all-time low of 44.1 pounds per capita in 1953.

# Compare for size...style...features! See why the big, beautiful PLYMOUTH is the Big Buy of all three!



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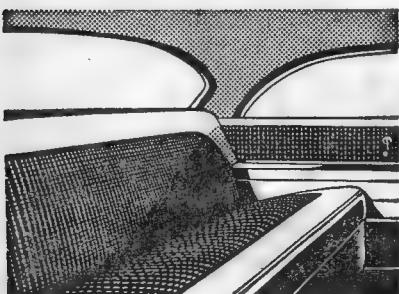
This year, of all years, it pays to *look at all three!* For this brilliant '55 Plymouth is all-new from the tires up!

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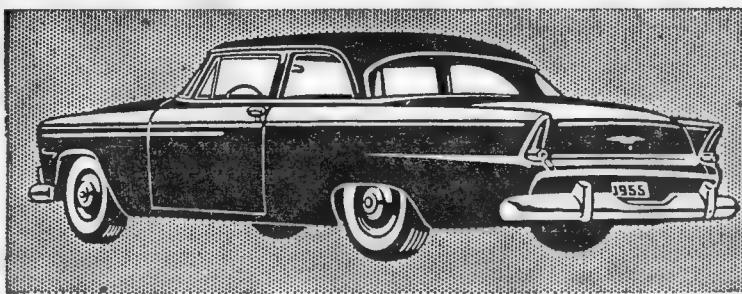
Plymouth's New Horizon swept-back windshield is the first to wrap fully around at top as well as at the bottom—to give you extra vision at eye level where you need it most!

Best of all, Plymouth's flashing new Hy-Fire V-8 and the stepped-up PowerFlow Six engines all give top performance from regular grade fuel! Get the whole exciting story firsthand. Visit your Chrysler-Plymouth-Fargo dealer now!

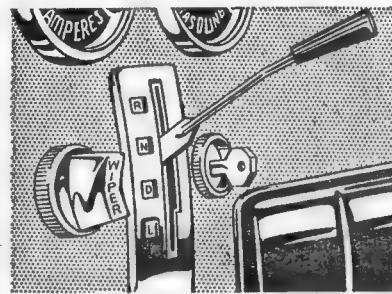
*Manufactured in Canada by Chrysler Corporation of Canada, Limited*



Spacious new interiors feature smart decorator fabrics and loop-twist carpeting that will stay beautiful for years to come. New bolsters can be washed clean with a damp cloth. New seats give restful support.



It's the longest of the low-priced three! From bumper to bumper it's 204 inches long—and that's actually as long as motorcars costing hundreds of dollars more! So why accept less? Get the size you want, the beauty you want in a low-cost Plymouth!



A new first in convenience! Plymouth's new Flite Control for the PowerFlite automatic transmission is conveniently mounted, on the instrument panel with other controls. A Plymouth exclusive among the Big Three!

See and drive the longest...lowest...liveliest PLYMOUTH ever  
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WE barbecued a buffalo when our town celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Not a whole buffalo, mind you, because the jubilee fell due in the Hungry Thirties and the committee in charge of the celebration couldn't afford to buy a whole carcass. For \$25, the Dominion Government sold us a choice hind quarter of a cow buffalo — one of the surplus animals killed in the Wainwright Buffalo Park of Alberta during the lean days of the Depression.

Even before we spent the money for the buffalo meat, we contacted an Old-timer who

## The old timer and the barbecued buffalo

By KERRY WOOD

knew how to barbecue a bison. He replied that he was willing to drive the seventy miles to our town, bring his own barbecue equipment, and guaranteed a good cooking job in return for \$15 wages and \$10 expenses. The Jubilee Committee had a woefully small budget, but the men felt that the Old-timer was offering a bargain and they

promptly agreed to his terms. Whereupon the Old-timer wrote again, in these words:

"You will have to make some preparations prior to the barbecue. First, you must dig a pit measuring 12 feet long, 8 or 9 feet wide, and 7 feet deep. Make an entrance at one corner, in the form of a dirt stairway to let me get in and out of the pit. A ladder would do, but I am over seventy years old and really prefer the dirt stairway.

"Once the pit is dug, there is only one more essential, which is about three cords of good sound firewood, preferably thick, dry willow and poplar. I do not want any spruce, because it throws sparks. Willow is best, because it provides hot and lasting coals. Please have the wood piled near the stairway at the entrance of the pit and I will do the rest when I come."

### Came Equipped

The Old-timer and his son arrived early on the morning of the Jubilee, unloading from an ancient car an assortment of inch-thick irons and long, shallow pans. The son took a shovel and scooped out a five-foot trench in the middle of the pit floor, a narrow trench that was to contain the fire-bed.

Meanwhile, the clear-eyed Old-timer with the droopy walrus mustache carried four Y-shaped irons down into the pit and proceeded to drive them into the ground at each end of the fire trench. He made a secure job of it, as the uprights had to support the weight of the buffalo hind quarter — plus a

large quarter of a Hereford steer donated by a kindly farmer.

"We'll have one quarter on each spit," the Old-timer explained, spacing the Y irons six feet apart lengthwise and a yard apart on each side of the fire trench. Then he lit the fire. The kindling was soon ablaze; more and more fuel was added until the flames shot upwards above the surface level around the pit.

The Old-timer and his son did not stay in the pit while the fire was blazing so fiercely. They were busy skewering the meat. Two long spit irons were used for this, irons measuring about one inch thick and seven feet long with a crank-shaped handle at one end while the other end was sharply pointed. The buffalo quarter and the heavy Hereford meat was threaded onto the irons while the fire burned down to a wonderful bed of glowing hot coals.

Now the Old-timer and his son each took an end of the buffalo quarter and carried it down into the pit, then placed the spit iron on the Y-shaped supports so that the meat was suspended a little to one side of the hottest part of the fire. The heavier Hereford quarter was carried down and placed on the other side, then the Old-timer turned the crank-handles at brief intervals to sear the outside of buffalo and beef while the coals were fiercely hot.

Next started the slow, ten-hour cooking session. Periodically a piece of cordwood was added, but never more than one at a time to avoid too much smoke. At thirty-minute intervals, each spit was given a quarter turn. As soon as the meat began to give off fat and juice, the long narrow pans were placed underneath to

# ALBERTA WHEAT POOL NEWS

Towards the end of February the Alberta Wheat Pool issued cheques totalling \$430,000 as a purchase of 5 per cent of all outstanding commercial and elevator reserves. No purchase was made which would reduce the member's reserves to less than \$5.00.

Members should understand that this payment is not subject to income tax, being actually return of capital.

Decision to make the payment was reached at the annual meeting of Alberta Wheat Pool delegates held last autumn. There was considerable debate as to whether or not there should be a purchase of 5 per cent of all reserves. A portion of the delegate body thought such purchases should be confined to older farmers who had quit farming and to estates of deceased Pool members, and that such should be a general policy of the organization. However, the majority was in favor of the rateable purchase of 5 per cent of all reserves.

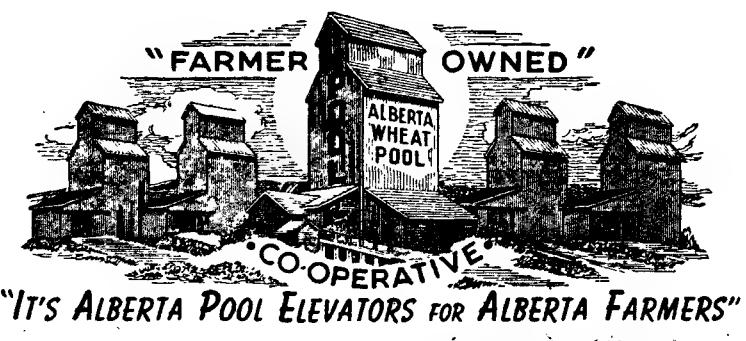
Earlier in the year, cheques totalling \$275,000 were paid out in full settlement of the reserves of members who had retired from farming and held no land, and also from the estates of deceased members.

The cash patronage dividend on deliveries to Alberta Pool Elevators in the 1953-54 crop year, totalling about \$600,000, will be made in the springtime, probably around the end of May.

These payments have been made possible because of large handlings in Pool elevators and also because of revenue derived from storage charges. Alberta Pool members should understand that good earnings depend on good patronage. If deliveries to Pool elevators decline, earnings go down.

It should also be understood by the membership that the Alberta Wheat Pool is an organization which operates for their protection as well as to provide savings. Its interests and activities cover a wide field. The Pool has proven to be an important asset to the agricultural industry.

As a farmer-owned co-operative the Alberta Wheat Pool places great reliance on the loyal support of the grain producers. Every Pool member should do his best, not only to see that his own grain goes through the Pool elevator, but in encouraging others to do likewise.



Of all the wild pets I have had "Jim" proved the most interesting — as well as the most troublesome. We (my pal and I) brought Jim home one day when he was still without many feathers. We fed him flies, bugs, crumbs and oatmeal porridge! He thrived just like the turkeys and soon was big enough to fly to meet us when we opened the door. He didn't mind where he perched himself: my head and shoulders were his favorite places.

He would follow us all over the farm, and Mum sure blessed him when she picked peas and beans as he would take them from the pail and split them and eat them.

When we played ball, Jim was a perfect nuisance. He would follow the ball—or me—from base to base, and if I

catch the drippings. The Old-timer had a huge iron spoon, and began to do a little judicious basting from time to time.

#### Really Hot

He didn't stay down in the pit all the time, for the heat was terrific. The narrow walls contained and reflected it, while the depth of the pit prevented the breeze from dissipating the heat away from the two spits. The people came to watch. We had a crowd of six thousand folks at our Jubilee Celebration that day, and almost every man, woman, and child came to the pit for a look at the barbecue job. The smell that rose from that hole in the ground was most tantalizing. Time and again the Old-timer had to smilingly fend off those who wished to use a jack-knife and carve off "just a taster".

The barbecue was timed to be ready at the end of the afternoon's platform entertainment. Right on the dot, the Old-timer tested the shrunken quarters with a long-tined fork and pronounced the meat to be cooked. Two of the town butchers took over. They had a solid table ready, with an assortment of knives all gleaming sharp and clean. Soon they were slicing the tender meat, while other men waited with thousands of pieces of buttered bread. They spread the meat on one slice, gave it a sprinkle of salt and pepper and a dab of mustard, then slapped on the covering slice of bread and wrapped the sandwich in a paper napkin.

The Old-timer was given one of the first and best of the real buffalo sandwiches. He munched on it slowly, nodding his head with satisfaction as he savored the flavor of it.

"Just like the old days," he murmured. Then he packed away his barbecue irons, gravy pans, and the iron spoon and climbed stiffly into the passenger seat of the ancient car. While the crowd was still clamoring for the delicious barbecued buffalo, the Old-timer and his son went chugging homeward after doing a grand day's work.

## A pet crow can be a nuisance

By TEDDY DUNHAM

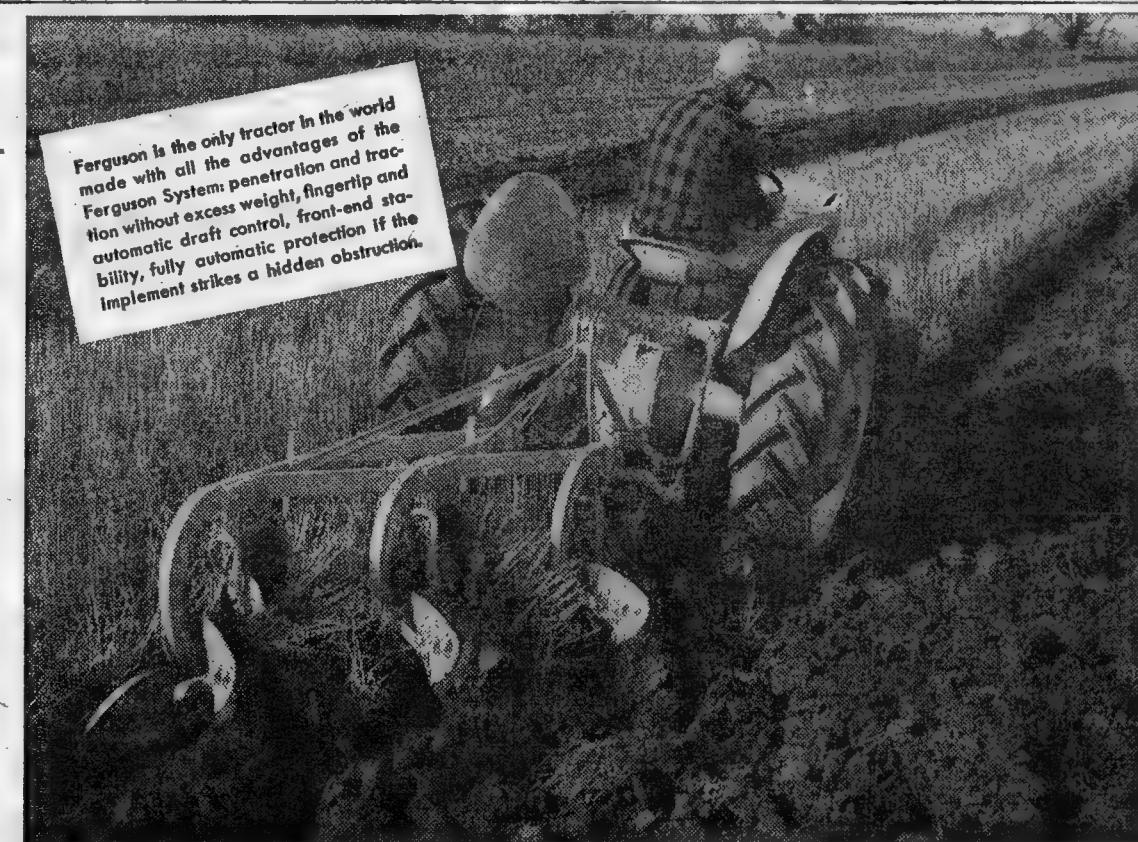
pitched, it was like having two baseballs heading for me at once. One day he rolled over on his back and stuck his feet straight up in the air and lay real quiet. We surely laughed at his antics — except the day he carried my silver-tipped arrows up on the house roof.

And I mustn't forget the noise Jim made! It was terrible, especially Sunday morning. One

day Mum entertained her Club at home and she warned me to lock Jim in the chicken coop. I did. I forgot there was a hole in the back of the coop and Jim "escaped". Just about lunch time he flew out to the house squawking for his supper, too. Oh, I was afraid to go in the house almost, but Jim proved a fine friend and put on a good entertainment for Mum's

friends.

When the Crows were flocking, Jim would set on a post near by and caw and chase them away. One day, however, he came flying to the house, with a mate. Do crows mate in the fall, I wonder? She wouldn't come any closer, but Jim flew to the verandah for his lunch. We banded him and it was late one fall day that Mum said he came for a few minutes and then left with his mate. Do you think he will come back in the spring? I hope so, very much.



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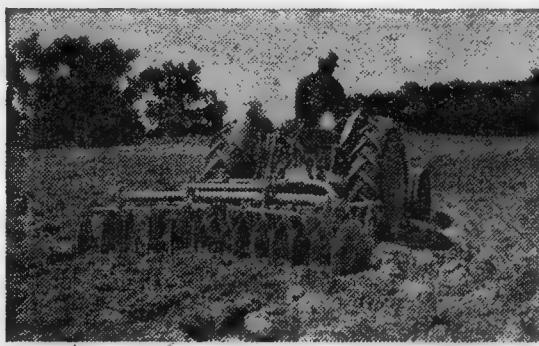
The Ferguson Tractor does not need excessive "built-in" weight for heavy draft performance. The weight of the implement and the soil forces acting on the implement are transferred to the tractor—adding weight to the rear wheels and giving extra traction as needed.



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All this means SAVINGS! You don't have to pay for excess power or needless built-in weight. You spend the absolute minimum on fuel and servicing. You end up with money in the bank.

But don't take our word for it. Find out for yourself by asking your Ferguson dealer to let you try a Ferguson tractor on your own farm. You'll wonder why you haven't been a Ferguson owner all along.



Ferguson System's draft control automatically assists the Ferguson Disc Harrow in heavy going by reducing draft, transferring additional weight to rear wheels, increasing traction. Simple one-minute, three-point attachment.

# Massey-Harris-Ferguson

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Toronto, Canada

OUR interest (mine and my family's) in Aberdeen-Angus cattle stems from a herd of doddies which my mother's father, F. R. Cathro, developed for over a period of forty years, twelve miles up Simon's Valley, northwest of Calgary. When ever a visit was paid to Casa Loma (the name of his farm) a tour of the cows, calves and young bulls was always in order, so that it is small wonder that I became indoctrinated with

## Canadian Angus breeders also have a Jubilee in 1955

By DON C. MATTHEWS

The author of this article can literally claim to have been born into a beef cattle herd. He is the grandson of F. R. Cathro, one of Alberta's earliest Angus breeders and with his father, C. C. Matthews, operated the Highland Stock Farm at Calgary. The Highland Angus herd goes back directly to that of Mr. Cathro.

the lore of breeding and raising black cattle.

Grandpa's start with the An-

gus dates from the cold and blustery morning of March 1, 1905, when a Mr. F. J. Lillie led him across a snowswept field near Sherwood, N.D., to look at some hardy black cattle. Later that month there were included in a shipment of livestock and settlers' effects being moved from Bottineau, N.D., to Calgary, two Aberdeen-Angus, a bull and a cow. The bull was Justinus—2737—a thick useful sort of animal, by the imported Prince of Kerrera—306. He was used with much success until late in 1910.

The cow was the four-year-old White Cloud Mabel—2765. She dropped a sturdy bull calf half a mile from the Casa Loma buildings within a month of arriving on the then fenceless western prairies, and in the years that followed she had fourteen more calves. Mabel and her descendants were among Grandpa's favorite animals in his own herd, and his pride in them extended beyond his own pastures, for animals of this same family did well for others. Actually they are a tribe of the West-side Grace family, and under that name, Mabel's offspring were prominent in the

C.P.R. breeding and show herds of the thirties.

### Early Sale

Not long after he arrived in Calgary, Mr. Cathro attended a sale held in the Calgary Stockyards, about May 20, 1905, consisting of 71 head of Aberdeen-Angus, Herefords, Shorthorns and Galloways. Most of the Angus had been shipped in from Minnesota by W. M. Willford, of Harmony. The sale catalogue lists some of his animals as being by the imported Leader of Dalmeny. This Pootlethen Lucy bull was bred by the Earl of Rosemary, Dalmeny, Scotland, and was being used at this time by Chas. Escher & Sons, Botna, Iowa.

At this sale, Mr. Cathro increased his Angus herd with the purchase of two young cows, Canton—2770—and Edgewood Errolline 2nd—1243—with her heifer calf, Young Errolline—2739. The latter cow and calf proved to be particularly prolific over the years that followed, and many breeders animals were raised among the Errollines.

With the passing years, Grandpa gradually increased his herd of Aberdeen-Angus and culled out his other animals, until he had about 30 black cows. When my father, C. C. Matthews, founded his herd in 1933, two of the foundation cows were selected from the good Casa Loma females, that we had watched develop, as we, too, came to know something of these black beef cattle.

### Founding Fathers

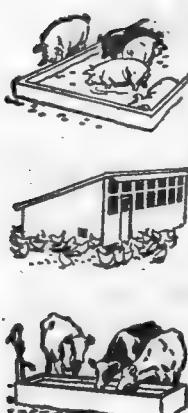


Here are the only survivors of the group of farmers who founded the Saskatchewan Stockgrowers' Association. Jack Byers, former Dominion Livestock Superintendent, is on the left with Olaf Olafson of Old Wives, Sask. They are examining a Mexican quirt that was sent to Olafson by Matt Morgan who now live in Arizona. The picture was taken in 1951.

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**Not New**

The blacks were not new in Western Canada when Mr. Cathro arrived here in 1905. Probably the original pioneer of the breed in the west was the Honorable M. H. Cochrane from Hillhurst, Quebec, who owned a ranch in the foothills near the village of Cochrane in the valley of the Bow River, twenty-five miles west of Calgary. He founded a herd of Angus at Hillhurst in 1881, and in the same year, twenty-five bulls were purchased in Scotland for use in the commercial herd on the foothills ranch—nine of them were selected at the Perth sale of that year. Mr. Cochrane also imported to Hillhurst, Blackbird of Corskie 2nd, the foundation cow of the 2nd Branch Blackbird family, which permeates the breed through North America today. He paid 200 guineas for her.

The family of Hon. J. H. Pope, Eastview, Quebec, also had a ranch in Alberta to which they sent bulls from their eastern herd at about this same period.

One of the first pure-bred herds of Angus cattle to be founded in Alberta was that of Hon. Walter F. C. Gordon-Cumming who owned the Quorn ranch near Calgary. In 1889, he imported three bulls and a large number of cows direct from Scotland, some of them having been bred by his brother. One of the bulls, Donald Dhu of Mullen, was rated by Hon. Jas. D. McGregor as one of the best bulls that he ever used. Soon after the cattle arrived in the west an arrangement was entered into with Mr. McGregor, Glencarnock, Brandon, Man., to handle them on a share basis. Ultimately, the herd passed into Mr. McGregor's hands and was part of the foundation of the most renowned herds of beef cattle on the continent.

In 1905, the Canadian Aberdeen-Angus Association was formed, and arrangements were made with the Dominion Government to record the registration of animals in the herd book. The first book appeared in 1908 with twenty-six owners of registered cattle living in Alberta. Among them were J. J. Dell, Islay, whose son N. Fred Bell is now the district agriculturist at Calgary. Chas. Ellett, South Edmonton, whose herd is now being carried on successfully at the same location by his son Alfred Ellett, now President of the Alberta Aberdeen-Angus Association. Others included, Gus Hilker, Red Willow; H. A. Day, Lacombe; H. A. Crocker, Pine Lake; Geo. G. Melson, Olds. The second herd book was published in 1911 with registrations from F. R. Cathro, J. A. Collicutt, Blackfalds; J. H. Fay, Blackfalds; Thos. Henderson, Lacombe, whose herd is being successfully carried on by his son Sam Henderson; W. T. G. McClure, Innisfail, whose herd was quite prominent for a few years following 1908 and A. G. Spooner, Okotoks.

The Alberta breeders formed an association of their own at a meeting held in Edmonton in 1917, and this organization has successfully carried on the promotion of the breed in Alberta over the years since that time.

Manitoba was represented in the first stud book by more than 40 breeders. The great McGregor herd was in and other prominent in Manitoba Angus were Hon. W. Clifford, of Austin, the Speers brothers of Griswold, and Turner brothers of Carroll.

Saskatchewan was represented by some 20 breeders, including John Traquair of Welwyn; R. B. Aldous of Lorie, and R. S. Lake of Grenfell.

## Russian wild ryegrass for farm lawns

RUSSIAN wild ryegrass is one of the best grasses to seed for farm yards and lawns. It is leafy, very hardy, and forms a tough sod. It remains green throughout the summer, and recovers more quickly than crested wheatgrass after cutting. Russian wild ryegrass is bunch rooted and seldom forms seed stalks in solid seedlings, and for this reason it does not volunteer into hedges and trees, a common fault of both crested wheatgrass and brome. Even if Russian wild ryegrass is not cut at all, it will not grow tall and appear neglected as quickly as crested wheatgrass.

For lawns, Russian wild ryegrass should be seeded heavy to provide a good ground cover. If a drill is used, a good way to plant is to seed the area at about 10 pounds per acre in one

direction and then overseed it crosswise at the same rate. A drill setting of one bushel per acre for wheat should be about right to seed the correct amount. A good check on the rate of seeding is to sow a short distance in hard ground and count the seeds that drop per foot of distance. If there are about 40 seeds per foot of row, the rate of seeding is adequate.

On small areas, the seed must be broadcast by hand or with a cyclone broadcast seeder. The land should be well worked and harrowed before and after seeding. About 40 pounds of seed per acre will be required to obtain uniform distribution.

For further information on the use of Russian wild ryegrass for farm lawns, write to the Forage Division, Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

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CHRISTIAN missionaries have been the world's pioneers, blazing new trails, exploring new continents, opening up new worlds in every way. So in Western Canada, long before the Royal North West Mounted Police arrived, Christian missionaries were here.

The instructions to the missionaries from Methodist headquarters read, "To labour daily for the welfare of their flocks by preaching the Word in every destitute settlement; to distribute the Holy Scriptures to the destitute; to exhort to peace and the support of the civil authorities; to encourage the establishment of Sabbath Schools; to recommend economy, decency, and industry; to press the worship of God in every family; to visit the sick and assist the poor; to administer the ordinances; to labor for and suffer with their flocks, and to do all in their power to bring sinners to repentance, and thereby endeavour to extend the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom."

Robert Rundle, a Methodist Missionary, in the 1840's, was the first resident missionary in this country. Then came George MacDougall who for twenty-five years, until his death in 1876, gave a heroic ministry as superintendent of the territory between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains! His son, John, was as great a pioneer and builder as his father. No man knew the Indians better, was a better friend, or did more for their education and general good. He founded a Mission to the Stoney Indians in 1871. "The MacDougall Orphanage and Boarding School" was built at Morley in 1882. Other missions were established at Woodville (1871), Saddle Lake (1887), and Red Deer Residential School (1893).

James Woodsworth, who became Superintendent of Missions for the Methodist Church in 1886, extended his field from the Great Lakes to the Pacific! Not only did he perform an astonishing work of organization and personal missionary work, but he brought hundreds of young men out from Britain as recruits to the ministry.

He tells of travelling from Calgary to Edmonton:

"Stopping places were few and far between. Sometimes when overtaken by night we camped in some place where grass and water were convenient. We had no tent, occasionally the shelter of the bluff. There was but one little settlement between Calgary and Edmonton. At Red Deer Rev. Leonard Gaeetz had some time before settled with his family. Our Church had only two men outside of the Indian work stationed north of Calgary. J. W. Dickinson at Red Deer and George H. Long at Edmonton."

John Maclean—a great pioneering missionary in his own right, states, "It seemed a strange thing for a woman to found the first Protestant Mis-

## Every denomination had its prairie pioneers

By DR. FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.) B.D.

sion in Southern Alberta, but that honor was reserved for Miss Barrett, the mission teacher at Morley, who John McDougall sent, with one of his daughters as companion, to Fort Macleod. There she started a school and held possession until Henry Manning, his wife and family came on the ground six months afterward (1878) ... a heroic soul was this pioneer woman, who lived and taught among the Indians for several years."

### Log Church

In 1878, George MacDougall and Edmonton citizens built with their own hands a log Church and installed the first organ ever to be seen in the far West. We read that "there were tears in the eyes of the people at the mission when they heard for the first time the strains of music from the little organ". So began MacDougall Church.

The first Protestant school was founded in Edmonton in 1871, the forerunner of Alberta College and St. Stephen's College, as well as the beginning of the Edmonton School system.

In 1875 John MacDougall in the Mounted Police Barracks, at Calgary, conducted the first service of any denomination in southern Alberta. In 1877 he built a little log Church that was replaced three or four times until the present Central Church was dedicated in 1905 — "the Mother Church of Methodism". James Turner had been appointed the first minister in 1883.

When Calgary was founded in 1875 already Father Leon Doucet, O.M.I., was settled at the site of the Fort of the Mounted Police at the junction of the Bow and Elbow Rivers.

### First Settler

Father Doucet was the first settler on the Calgary site. His vision was responsible for a new

Church building south of the present Holy Cross Hospital, the first Roman Catholic Church in southern Alberta. This centre replaced the Mission of Our Lady of Peace which had been established in 1872, twenty-five miles up the Elbow River.

The Mission of southern Alberta was under the Rev. Constantin Scollen, an Oblate priest from Ireland. Then Father Lacombe, O.M.I., replaced Father Scollen as Superior of the mission. A new building was constructed at 19th Ave. and 1st St. W. Two years later sisters were brought to the town and this Church building was placed at their disposal. In 1886 plans were under way for a new Church which, when completed in 1889, became known as St. Mary's Church and was made the Cathedral Church when the diocese of Calgary was created. Until 1912 Calgary was the Bishop of St. Albert. But on November 30th, 1912, Calgary was made a diocese and on July 27, 1913, its first bishop, Most Rev. J. T. McNally, arrived to begin his important ministry which continued for eleven years.

In 1885 the first Roman Catholic school was opened by members of the Order of the Faithful Companions of Jesus and became known as St. Mary's Girls' School. St. Mary's Boys' School was conducted by members of the diocesan clergy, but in 1933 the Basilian Father of St. Michael's College, Toronto, took charge.

Four Sisters of Charity, the Grey Nuns, came from Montreal and won the hearts of the populace by their brave work during a smallpox epidemic in 1891. They erected tents along Nose Creek to care for smallpox victims. Then the citizens of Calgary built the Holy Cross Hospital. In 1907 the Holy Cross

School of Nursing was established.

The Lacombe Home was founded in 1910 by Father Lacombe and is administered by the Sisters of Providence. The Sisters of Providence also care for the Providence Creche built in 1943 in Calgary.

In Banff the Sisters of St. Martha have a general hospital which specializes as an arthritic clinic. At Cardston the Grey Nuns administer an Indian Reserve hospital.

The Roman Catholic Church has increased with the population. In 1912 the Ukrainian Catholic Church was placed on the North Hill. In 1882, a Church was built in the Macleod and Cuny area; in 1885, at Pincher Creek; in 1887 at Banff, and that same year at Lethbridge.

The Rt. Rev. John McLean, Anglican Bishop of Saskatchewan, visited Calgary in 1883 and laid the plans which gave birth to the Diocese of Calgary, now comprising all Alberta south of Ponoka Reserve.

Mr. Tims, a missionary on the Blackfoot Reserve, conducted services in the Mounted Police barracks the first Sunday of November, 1883. After the Easter services, Sunday, 1884, a business meeting planned for development. Mr. Paske Smith was obtained as minister. The Church of the Redeemer was completed on August 2, 1884, on the present site of Paget Hall. In 1902, Mr. E. C. Paget became the first Dean of Calgary, entering upon a ministry of twenty-seven years.

At first Calgary was part of the Diocese of Saskatchewan. In 1888 the Rt. Reverend Cyprian Pinkham, Bishop of Saskatchewan, created the See of Calgary. He continued as Bishop of Calgary until 1926, when he was succeeded by Bishop Sherman who in 1943 was elected the See of Rupert's Land and became archbishop of the ecclesiastical province.

Edmonton was originally included in the Diocese of Cal-

### Early Champion



Here is a famous Alberta livestock judge in an earlier day. He is Charlie Yule, on the right, at the halter of Gainford Marquis. On the left is Jas. Watt of Elbow. Gainford Marquis was owned by Robert Caswell of Saskatoon who brought the first Shorthorns to Saskatchewan. It is believed that this picture was taken in 1914.

gary. In 1914 the new Diocese of Edmonton was formed.

#### Great Scot

A governor-general bore testimony that James Robertson, Presbyterian missionary-statesman, deserved a place in Westminster Abbey. Canon Tucker sums up the work of legislators, politicians, and business men, concluding "above them all as a real maker of the West I place the great Superintendent", who in 1881 was appointed to his vast charge of Western Canada.

In 1881 a young Canadian, Andrew Baird, studying in Leipzig, Germany, was asked to undertake a mission in Edmonton. The railway only brought him to Winnipeg, where he bought a horse and buckboard, a tent and blankets, a few cooking utensils, and food. Then he set out alone. "At Battleford I spent a week because of bad weather," he records, "then came the long stretch to nearly 300 miles without an inhabitant between Battleford and Edmonton. During this period I was for four days without seeing a mortal, putting up my tent each evening, tethering my horse, cooking my supper, and sleeping with the howling of wolves as a lullaby". First Church was established in Edmonton which in 1887 became the pulpit from which for 40 years Dr. McQueen exercised a tremendous ministry.

Angus Robertson organized a Presbyterian congregation at Medicine Hat in 1883. He also organized congregations at High River, Sheep Creek, and Pine Creek. His first service in Calgary was held in June in I. G. Baker's store. This congregation went on to organize Knox Church. In 1884 services were begun in Pincher Creek. In 1885 Lethbridge began the erection of a Church. The Rev. Charles McKillop came as minister and exercised remarkable civic influence. He was said to have struck terror into the hearts of evildoers!

The Presbytery of Calgary was organized in July, 1887, with the following amazing boundaries: "On the east by the 109th meridian of longitude, on the south by the 49th parallel of latitude, on the west by a line drawn north and south through the westerly crossing of the Columbia by the C.P.R. and on the north by the Arctic Sea"!

In 1887 William Neilly began a Church at Red Deer. He was the first missionary of any Church to work in that whole Red Deer area.

Gavin Hamilton went as minister to Macleod in 1891; A. M. Gordon to Raymond in 1889, and in 1890 Matheson came from Nova Scotia to build churches at Okotoks, Davisburg and Sheep Creek. In 1888 the Presbytery organized a congregation at Banff which would be served in 1890 by the famous "Ralph Connor" (C. W. Gordon).

Grace Church was founded in 1905 in the home of Alexander Aird. During the 80's the Hungarian people came in some numbers and founded a Presbyterian Church. In 1930 the Rev. Bela Bucsin was appointed to be their minister.

Surely the pioneers were great men. One reads of Hyslop Dickson fording Belly River when his horse became unmanageable, of Whiteman crossing St. Mary River when his ponies were submerged and he lost his overcoat and other baggage, of MacNabb preaching in a lumber camp when the dinner gong rang, of J. S. Shortt getting a letter from James Robertson saying, "Foothills is your field"!

In 1887 Calgary was invaded by the most merciful soldiers in the world — the Salvation Army. From the first their singing, band music, and preaching were popular. Their first Sunday School of twelve children met in a room above the liquor store. The smell was so strong the first-comers had to air the place before it was fit for a meeting.

The fine home for children with its five acres of land and accommodation for a hundred children and the staff was begun in 1908 in Killarney district of Calgary.

Then in 1915 a men's service was begun to meet the need of destitute men returning from overseas. This sort of service in our leading cities has been absolutely invaluable and is used by all the Churches.

The Bishop Pinkham College was purchased from the city of Calgary in 1935 and converted into Grace Maternity Hospital. It provides a shelter for unmarried mothers. The Salvation Army also has built in Calgary a new Eventide Home for elderly people.

#### First Lutherans

The Lutherans held their first service in Calgary in 1893, but no really organized work existed until 1900 when the First Lutheran Church was formed. In that year the Norwegian Lutheran Church which later became Trinity Lutheran Church was created. The Norwegian Luther Church also founded a college at Camrose in 1910. In 1901, Immanuel Lutheran Church was organized.

The Missouri Synod founded Concordia College in Edmonton in 1921. Concordia College has a beautiful location on the Saskatchewan River. It has an enrollment of 125 boys and girls. It provided High School training and a two-year college course. It also trains pastors and Church teachers and workers.

In the Spring of 1888 a Baptist Layman came to Calgary and organized the First Baptist Church. The first service was held in the Masonic Hall and it is recorded, "The attendance was not all that could be desired!"

George Cross, uncle of Cliff-ton C. Cross, was the first ordained pastor of the Baptist Church in Calgary. The North West Company donated a site at 6th Ave. and 2nd St. W. which was accepted reluctantly because it "seemed too far west". A Church was built by Thomas Underwood in 1890 and Mrs. Thomas Underwood was the first candidate to be baptized.

To belong to a Church in mon in our day, that "every- those days was a sterner matter

than today. It is recorded that one young woman was dropped from the Baptist roll on a vague charge of "worldliness". Resolutions were passed and entered against "dancing, card-playing, horse-racing, betting, intemperance, and all kindred practices" in order to "keep the body of Christ unspotted from the world". Severe perhaps, but is the other extreme, so com-

mon in our day, that "every- thing goes" any improvement?

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## B. C. fruit growers— then, now and tomorrow

By TOM LEACH

THE hopes and aspirations of the B.C. fruit grower of today are not much different from his counterpart of 1905. It was striking, to one who had reviewed a few of the minutes of the earlier meetings, how the resolutions brought before the meeting this year were related to those approved by the growers at the turn of the century. Again this year the question of markets, supply, grading, and varieties entered into the discussion.

The younger delegates at this year's meeting maintained rapt attention during the presentation of the numerous committee reports, but as one speaker continued to counsel the meeting at some length, I noticed one of the growers who has participated in many past annual conventions. He had fallen asleep.

His eyelids slowly closed and his head drooped ever farther forward until he seemed consumed in quiet meditation. Possibly, I thought, dreaming of some of the earlier meetings—I could picture him clearly standing at the front of a smaller hall, without the aid of a microphone, speaking slowly so that the secretary could record his remarks, debating the high freight rates or poor returns for his fruit.

Those were problems in the early days, too. The fruit industry must have appeared even more hazardous as an investment then than it does now. At the annual meeting in 1905 the growers were told about the fabulous acreage of fruit trees being planted in the Okanagan. They must have shown more concern when they were told that the Canadian apple crop that year would be close to "15 million barrels".

### Kept Planting

But the growers in B.C.'s interior went doggedly on planting more trees, and hunting later for markets. That thought brought me back to the present. All growers were alert to the 38-page report of J. B. Lander, sales manager of B.C. Tree Fruits Limited, the grower-owned agency which sells the fruit from B.C. orchards. He drew a well informed and plain picture of the present and potential markets for B.C. production.

While he spoke favorably about the possible outlets for the B.C. apple crop he warned that some varieties are no longer desirable. What was in demand as a cooking or eating apple fifty years ago is not suitable for the modern market. He suggested changes for present planting to suit conditions when the young trees reach full bearing age several years from now.

The only conceivable large market for apples when the trees were being planted in the

early 1900s existed on the prairie farms and in Great Britain. Fruit for the prairies would be shipped in bulk and the buyer was expected to worry about storing the fruit.

In the past fifty years those ideas have completely vanished. The shipping of fruit to both nearby and far distant markets has spread over a longer period each year. The customer quickly adapted the idea of buying only what fruit was needed for immediate consumption. Refrigerated warehouses for holding the apples made this possible, so did improved facilities on the railroads. Then came the fast freight trucks.

### Cold Storage

Every packinghouse in each district has its large cold-storage building. They are as much a part of the Okanagan as the elevators are emblematic of our grain country. They have helped to extend the life of the apple and to keep the trucks and railroads busy with hauling over a period of months rather than weeks. They provide insurance against warm, fruit-damaging weather at harvest time.

The fruit growers are not satisfied with everything as they now have it. They were discussing marketing and pooling fifty years ago. One of the most contentious resolutions to come before this year's meeting was on the question of pooling their shipments. They have achieved central marketing which was also on the resolution list in 1905.

Even at that early date they recognized the need for research. They asked the federal government for an experimental orchard for the dry-belt. Since then the Summerland Experimental Station was established.

### New Plants

In turn the plant breeders at the Station have added new valuable. They produced the Van and several other cherries, a new peach and the Spartan apple. They have kept the grower in close touch with soil management, irrigation developments, and given sound direction in the control of pests and disease.

One of the results of research was the now famous apple juice and more recently, apricot nectar. These juices have grown to important status among the varieties which have proved in-processed products from the fruit into juice. Still more important is the fact that most of the apples used for this purpose were not large enough for marketing as fresh fruit.

The need for additional markets was apparent to the 77 delegates at this year's convention. They were told that peach production could reach  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3

million cases by 1960. That represents a stiff climb from the 300,000 cases marketed 20 years ago.

Those are much the same problems that faced the early settler and his apparently large acreage of new apple trees. But fifty years can not pass without some amusing incident which will be remembered much longer than the killing frosts that ruined the crop in 1950.

Ben Hoy, one of the first government horticulturists to serve the Okanagan and Kootenay fruit growers recalled an early meeting of farmers when it was the habit to bring all the family along to participate in the supper and the entertainment which followed.

On this occasion which Ben recalled so vividly, the children had been placed on mats at the side of the room for sleep and

the adults entertained with a poem or song. Some were more talented than others but one Scotsman whose reluctance to sing had been dulled with several liberal contacts with a pocket flash finally made his way to the platform.

With his strong voice he roared out the strains of Harry Lauder's, "I'm foo the noo." As he ferociously swung into the

chorus, out flew his false plates. According to Ben, he reached down and grabbed his teeth and slapped them back into place and finished the tune without missing a note.

Such dauntless men were those who planted the famous McIntosh over the waste benches of the Okanagan and built the miles of irrigation flume to make them more famous.

1905-1955



## ALBERTA HONORS HER PIONEERS with *Senior Citizen Scrolls*

FOR their contribution to Alberta's Fifty Golden Years, all pioneers who were in the province at the time of its establishment in 1905 or before, will be presented with Senior Citizen Scrolls, upon application. Crests on the delicately engraved border of the scroll will depict historic motifs of the province, and the script will identify the recipient as a Senior Citizen. The name will be hand written on each scroll by an artist.

### WHO MAY APPLY:

All persons who have been in residence in the province since the year 1905 or prior, may apply for a Senior Citizen Scroll. A short period of absence does not disqualify you.

### HOW TO APPLY:

Application must be made for scrolls. Forms will be available soon at Municipal Offices in each district or from the Jubilee Committee. Completed application forms are to be sent to the Committee (address below).

### *Closing Date for Applications—August 1st, 1955*

To enable the Jubilee Committee to prepare and distribute the scrolls, your co-operation is requested. Completed applications must be received by August 1, in order that distribution may begin by August 22.

### DISTRIBUTION OF SCROLLS:

The majority of scrolls will be mailed from the Jubilee office to the applicant, but communities wishing to be responsible for distribution at special presentation ceremonies, even prior to August 22, are requested to prepare a list of eligible citizens and ensure that application forms are submitted well in advance of the date scrolls are required.

### SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY:

A Senior Citizen's Day has been added to the agenda of official dates for the Jubilee Year. September 10th has been set, though communities throughout the province will be holding special Senior Citizen Scroll presentations to coincide with their own Jubilee activities.

### *Honoring Our Pioneers*

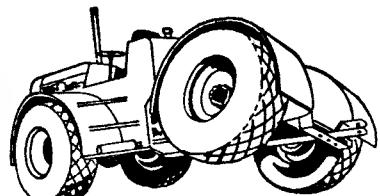
THEY, who homesteaded in Alberta at the turn of the century, or who pioneered in industry — they who saw the birth of a great province and contributed to 50 years of progress — it is they who are worthy of a special and personal commendation by the rest of us — their relatives, friends and neighbors. Whatever the date, wherever the presentation of a Senior Citizen Scroll — in a home or at a public gathering, join in our Golden Jubilee Celebrations by adding your personal congratulations.

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## Machinery pools and production costs

MUCH has been written, and a great deal more spoken, regarding the price squeeze that is being placed on the small farmer by the combination of increased costs of the goods he has to buy and the reduced proceeds of the things he has to sell.

To many, the answer appears to be "parity prices". Now a parity price today would put hogs at about \$35.00 cwt.; good steers at about 28c per lb., and grade "A" eggs at about 45c a dozen. Most farmers, I believe, would be satisfied with these prices, but what they have prob-

ably not considered is what they would do with the immense surplus that would pile up.

Of course, these surpluses would be prevented by organization of a marketing board and the use of production quotas. But where there are quotas there must be regulation and controls, and few people like compulsion. Floor prices are no great help to the farmer but are merely intended as a protection to the consumer. Any consumer who thinks that he would be getting eggs at 15c a dozen now if the floor price were removed must remember he would pay about \$1.00 a dozen later on when 75% of the egg producers were knocked out. The same goes for the other farm products.

However, it is becoming increasingly obvious the small farmer is nearly through. We may as well train our thinking toward this end. The more units you have, the less it costs per unit to produce.

If a small farmer can make a few cents on ten hogs at 25c, think how much a specialized farmer can make with, say 5,000 hogs! Economists tell us farms should not be capitalized to the extent of an amount exceeding \$20.00 per cultivated acre. Check your machinery inventory, Mr. Farmer, and see how you stand by this scale. The price of a tractor alone exceeds \$20.00 per cultivated acre of the average quarter-section farm. I have seen four farmers on one section of land, each with his own tractor and line of machinery, when one outfit would have farmed it all easily.

Well, what's to happen? Either one of two methods: We can have one man buying up his more unfortunate neighbors; we see this more particularly on the southern prairies, but the idea will spread. He will own perhaps thirty, fifty — maybe one hundred sections of land. He forms a company; lives in a city, Calgary, or maybe Edmonton. In the spring, he picks up some men at the employment office, goes out with a fleet of tractors and seeds his fields. The men are then laid off to join the unemployed until fall when a fleet of self-propelled combines takes the crop off. Community life is finished because there is no community. The farm has resolved itself to an effectively run factory.

The other alternative is the co-operative farm, where the owners share the cost of the

farm machinery and divide the savings at the year's end. You can call them "socialist," "collective farms" or whatever name suits your purpose, the net result is the same. Some of these have been operating for a few years in Saskatchewan. Some appear to be successful, others not so much. Like all co-operatives, they are a success only when the members themselves have the necessary stability.

There are a number of features of both plans I do not like. Most of all I shall miss what we call "independent neighborliness". I hope you know what I mean. In some districts it still remains. Ours is one, but in spite of what our provincial government told the F.U.A. delegates, this has been nothing short of a disaster year in this area. We have taken a real body blow. One more year like 1954 and we are through!

Dale Holtslander.

Abee, Alta.

## Painless extraction

To the Editor:

ON page 30 of your October issue there appears a letter about the difficulty of removing porcupine quills from the dog. It is very easy to remove the quills from any animal if you take a pair of scissors and cut the quills about half an inch from the skin as this deflates them and they come out easy. You might give this information in your paper as it would be useful to many.

W. McFarlane.

Victoria, B.C.

## Letters critic

To the Editor:

Just been reading some of my back issues of the Review. I keep them for references. But tonight I feel like just talking to the readers of "The Our Readers Think Page".

The issue I am reading is the March, 1954, number.

Well, the letters on that page gave me such mixed feelings I figured they should be mentioned in comparison. One letter, written by Mrs. W. A. Roffey of Kinusa, Alta., on the use of potatoes for feeding on the farm. A very useful and constructive letter. One that builds, and in building, beautifies with its humble simplicity — the use of potatoes.

Next to it was a letter tearing down, wishing to destroy fellow beings. Written by George Le Marquand of Rycroft, Alberta. What a different feeling one gets after reading the one before. What a let down. After all, we are all striving to live and do the best we can at living (or we should be); even a letter can build or destroy.

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Zina Boehmer.  
Erickson, B.C.

## Christianity and morals

To the Editor:

I would like to question John Gereluk's contention that the Christian religion is as much concerned with morals as it is with the hereafter. A few Sundays ago I listened in to a famous "Back to the Bible" Alberta preacher who holds to the view that good conduct will count as nothing to those who do not accept Christ as their Saviour. Premier Manning's words were: "No matter how good people are, they will be cast into a lake of fire to suffer everlasting torment, if they are unbelievers."

I wrote asking if he would be happy in Paradise knowing that all those of other religions, and including deists, pantheists and free-thinkers, etc., were in such torment. He did not reply except to say next Sunday that the Bible was the word of God literally and could not be questioned. Well, of course, the Bible is our greatest book, but is also a very difficult one with all its eastern allusions, symbolisms, legends, and mythical allegories that western minds cannot fathom. But the gullible fringe of shallow and primitive literalists accept the eastern creations, in toto, and see nothing amiss with the "glory for us" and to hell with all the others, conception.

The emphasis and trend among thinking Christians today, I venture to hope, is towards the simple and unselfish ethics so greatly despised by your correspondent.

Forward looking poets and humanists did not get off scot free as Mr. Gereluk would try to make out, and furthermore it is an unfair comparison to set up the finest passage in scripture as against the worst in our poetry.

John Christie.  
6625 Fleming, Vancouver, B.C.

## The early trails

To the Editor:

Just received my January Farm and Ranch Review. When I came to Alberta, back in 1899, there was only a small mix train, thrice weekly, from Calgary to So. Edmonton. My father and myself settled on the north half Section 4, T. 40, R. 24, 13 miles E. and 3 south of Lacombe, Alta. 10 miles west of Alix. Two small horse-power threshing machines did all the threshing about Lacombe that year.

Things have changed some since that time. At that time, there were not very many roads

opened up yet; just trails here and there, etc. It was mostly ranching at that time.

Donald F. Belknap.  
Edmonton, Alta.

## Pious felons

To the Editor:

In reply to John Gereluk (in your last issue), may I humbly point out to him that the jails are filled with criminals who, in many cases, are quite religious and most of them have not abandoned their faith in God. It is characteristic that most murderers are accompanied to the execution by a priest or a minister. If they didn't believe in God, they wouldn't have it that way.

Mike Taczynski.  
Gypsumville, Man.

## Argument over muskrats

To the Editor:

Was reading about muskrats, by Kerry Wood, where he claims that they have two to three litters a year. I lived around muskrat houses and I got so I could tell them apart from each other. They only got one litter a year. Some are born early part of May, some later in June, that's why most people think they have more litters a year. Most people don't spend enough time to really find out. I sure did, because I had a lot of it in the thirties that all I done then was trap. I have seen as high as 10 in a litter. They grow fast once they are about six weeks old. It takes the old pair all their time to raise them, so if they had two or three litters, the last bunch would be under the ice before they were born.

Ernie Kalk.  
Hudson Bay, Sask.

## A fair price for wheat

To the Editor:

I enjoy many articles which appear in your paper, latest being "The British want back in the world wheat agreement." It is my firm belief they only dropped out to get wheat cheaper, having no regard of the expense it takes to produce it. Now that war is very likely in the near future, they probably are only too willing to have the price fixed at a much lower rate than the open market would bring.

After farming for 46 years and now retired, I can assure you I didn't sleep most of the time or go to a warmer climate in the winter either. If a country is to remain prosperous, it is very important that all those who produce the natural resources like the miner, the logger, fisherman and farmer be paid a decent amount, but it should never be too much as it interferes with export.

W. G. McCargan.  
Vancouver, B.C.



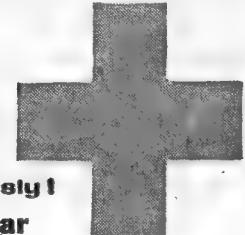
## Who are the people of the RED CROSS?

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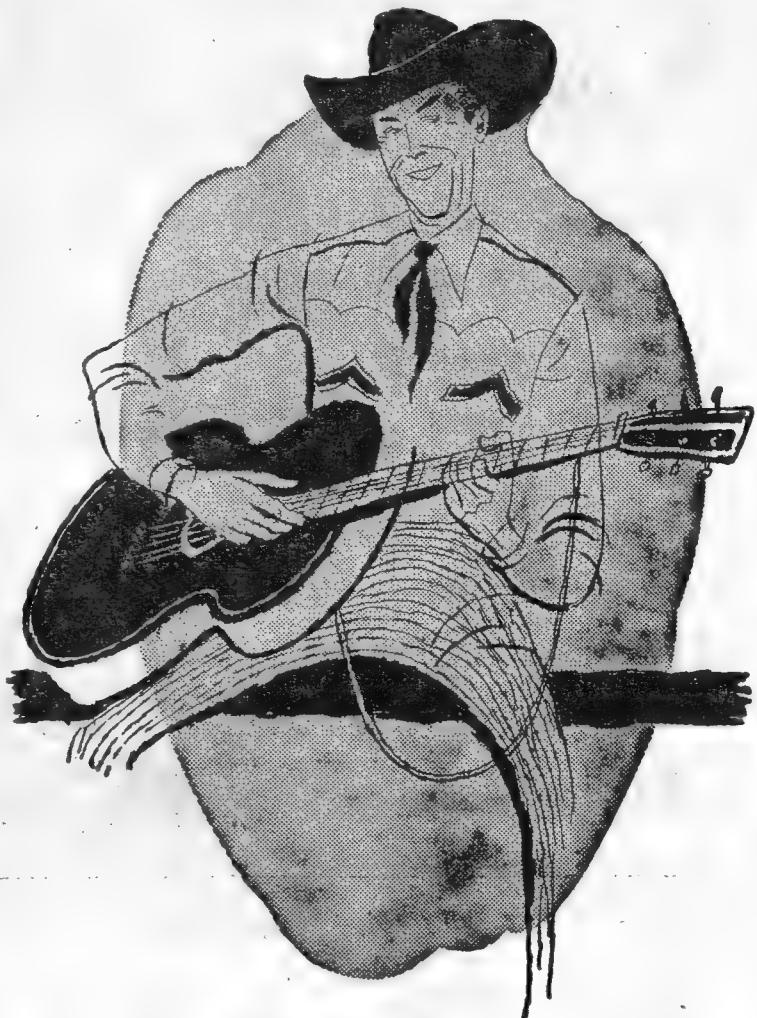
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The Voice of the Prairies Limited  
Calgary

## *More trees in Sask. mean better grain crops*

MANY Saskatchewan farmers plant more trees in order to grow more grain. A paradox, you say? Not according to those farmers who have well-grown field shelterbelts. The Conquest Field Shelterbelt Association, which covers 126 sections and in which one farmer alone has planted 350,000 trees, has become a major demonstration area for the rest of the province. From there, visiting farmers have taken the idea home, and with the help of various government assistance plans, have planted field shelterbelts on their own farms.

Over 2,000,000 seedling trees were sent out last spring to Saskatchewan farms from the federal forest nursery stations at Indian Head and Sutherland. This is slightly higher than the total distributed in 1953, and is in addition to thousands of trees planted to extend the Conquest area and a similar but smaller project at Aneroid. About half of this year's distribution went into field shelterbelts, being sufficient to plant about 350 miles of hedges. The remainder were used in farmstead shelterbelts, roadside hedges, snow traps around dugouts and in woodlots. From 1937 to 1952, prairie farmers planted 2,000 miles of field shelterbelts outside the Conquest and Aneroid projects.

### Many Benefits

It is well known that field shelterbelts reduce wind velocity, but the varied benefits which derive from this are not so well recognized. The most noticeable advantages are the reduction of soil drifting and control of snow. In the Conquest area soil drifting was very severe in the drought years of the 1930's, but where field shelterbelts have grown to serviceable heights this type of soil erosion has been almost completely controlled. Tests have shown that a well-grown shelterbelt 25 to 30 feet high may be expected to reduce wind velocity for a distance of approximately 400 feet, the velocity at 200 feet being about 50 per cent of that in the open. Where hedges are planted in rows 20 rods apart across the prevailing wind the centre of the field will be only 165 feet from the bordering hedges.

As well as controlling soil drifting the reduction in wind velocity traps snowfall, providing additional spring moisture for field crops and gardens, filling large dugouts and keeping roads and rail lines passable. Snowdrifts along shelterbelts have been reported more than 60 feet wide and up to 10 feet deep.

In several areas of the province, although annual rainfall

might be sufficient to produce an average crop, hot dry winds take up this moisture before it can be used by the plants. Reduced wind velocity achieved by field shelterbelts results in a corresponding reduction in the rate of evaporation and transpiration of soil moisture through the plants. It has been found that at a distance of 50 feet from a single-row white spruce belt 25 feet high, evaporation was reduced 40 percent.

Further benefits of field shelterbelts are less physical damage to standing crops by high winds, and protection of more delicate garden and orchard plants from light frosts. This latter benefit means a greater variety of fruits and vegetables than could otherwise be grown in the prairie area.

Advantages of a social nature accrue, since with open roads winter isolation does not become a major factor in the decision to move from rural to urban home. With varied garden and orchard produce, a greater assurance of financial returns from field crops, more adequate water supplies from dugouts and a farm home beautified by trees and flowers, life on the farm becomes more attractive, congenial and permanent.

### Spacing Important

In areas of light soil subject to severe drifting in dry weather, the field shelterbelts are generally planted in rows 20 rods apart running nearly the length of the field and as much as possible across the direction of prevailing winds. In most areas the farmers have compromised by planting the hedges in a north-south direction.

On heavier land, the spacing between rows may be extended to 50 rods or more, the average being 40 rods. However, at least one farmer in the Conquest area whose original plantings were more widely spaced later decided greater advantage could be gained by a further sub-division of the fields. The use of mechanized farming techniques has not been hampered because of the narrower strips.

The past objection by some farmers that tree planting was a long and arduous task has been largely overcome through development of mechanical tree-planting machines capable of handling 1,500 seedlings per hour. The machine, carrying two operators, is pulled by a tractor.

### Help Buy Machines

Purchase of tree planting machines by municipalities is encouraged by the Saskatchewan department of agriculture through payment of half the cost to a maximum of \$400. Since this assistance policy was begun in 1950, a total of 23 ma-

## Small trains and little cars moved first crops

By J. W. MAUNDER

MAXIMUM-length trains of only 17 cars and up to 28 per cent of the crop moved over loading platforms are part of the prairie grain picture turned up in transportation records from the 50 years the Canadian Pacific Railway has been serving Alberta and Saskatchewan provinces.

The C.P.R. has, of course, been the West's conveyor belt for longer than that, for almost as long as there has been a crop to move. The first year for which crop records are available was 1878. The C.P.R. was running into what is now Saskatchewan in 1882, into the present Alberta in 1883.

Back there in 1905 the size of the box cars was 30 tons and 40 tons. Figuring an average of 35 tons and a maximum train of 17 cars, this meant 595 tons of grain. Now there are 70-ton box cars and diesel engines which can haul to 6,000 tons as they did in the crop year ended July 31, 1953, when a new all-time record in grain loading was set with 372,431,000 bushels of grain moved.

Going back a little further than Provincial Year 1905 for Saskatchewan and Alberta, the records show that in 1900 there were 17 million bushels of wheat produced on the prairies in a severe drought year, and in the following year production was 62.8 million bushels. Still further back, in 1885, the count was 8.5 million bushels on the Prairie Region.

### Big Run

The loading platforms enjoyed their biggest run between 1906 and 1908 while elevator construction was catching up. 14% of all grain loaded on the C.P.R. in 1906 was over platforms, and in 1908 that figure had risen to 28%. From there

chines have been purchased. The department will also pay up to \$16.00 per mile of the cost of planting.

Broadleaf trees are supplied free of charge from the forest nursery stations at Indian Head and Sutherland, the farmer paying only the express charges. Most of the trees supplied for field shelterbelts are caragana, which are planted from 12 to 18 inches apart in single rows. To provide greater height as a "second storey" above the dense caragana, many farmers have substituted maple, ash or some other tree for every tenth caragana, or as a second row beside caragana. In low-lying slough areas where high moisture content makes the growing of caragana inadvisable, acute-leaf willow is substituted and grows very rapidly.

Tests are being carried out to

it went downward to 10% in 1916, five per cent during the 30's and in 1949 the figure was 0.4%.

The trains might have been small in 1905 judged by present-day standards, but they did not waste any time on the road for average time in transit from Swift Current to Fort William was approximately seven days, and, allowing for this being all main line, it compares favorably with the transportation record in recent years. Saskatchewan cars now do four round trips a month to the Lakehead and Alberta cars do three, with these being averages taking in the lines which get only local service as well as mainline points. In 1905 most of the railroad was mainline.

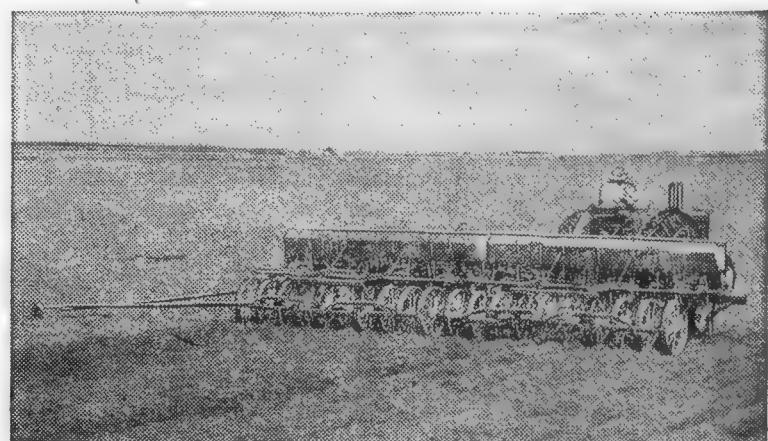
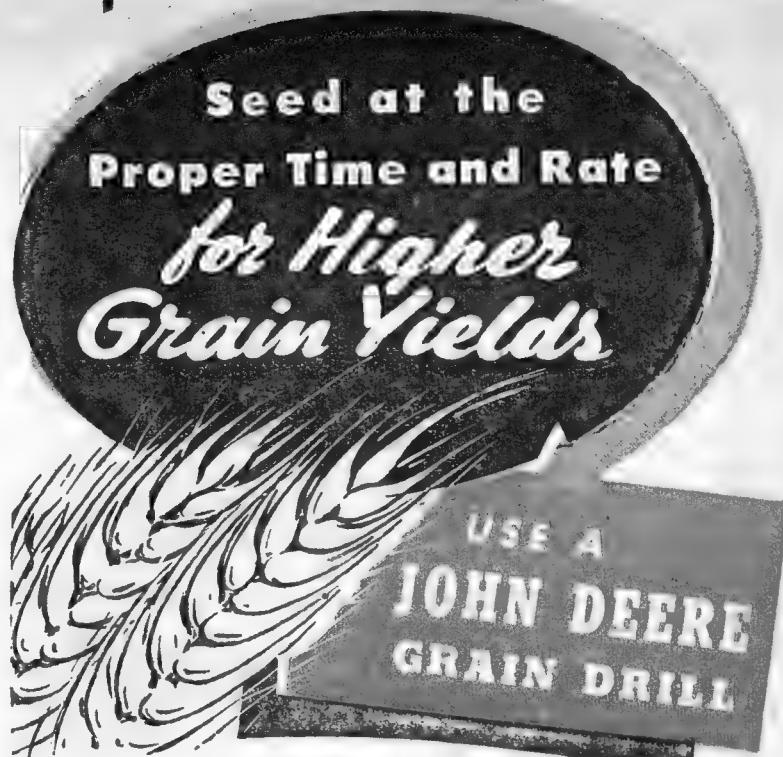
Those early days when there were loading platforms needed dispatchers right on the job to instruct conductors where to spot empties and where to pick up loads. These loads were sealed by the agent at the first open office and billed by the same agent as from the point of pick-up.

Stencilled load limits on the outside of the car and stencilled grain lines inside them were the indication of maximum weight and the heights to which grain could be loaded to reach that weight limit.

The average out-turn of wheat per car at the Lakehead increased progressively from 1900 to 1913 in the big days of the small box cars. Up to 1900 these cars were 20 tons and 30 tons and from 1901 on were 30 tons and 40 tons. In 1900 the average out-turn per car at the Lakehead was 53,000 pounds, and it went up each year to 1913 as more of the bigger cars were received until it was at 79,000 pounds per unit.

Select trees and shrubs suited to land which is slightly or moderately alkali. Encouragement to insect-eating birds is provided by planting fruit-bearing shrubs. In the Conquest area as many as 25 bird nests have been reported per half-mile of shelterbelt. In home and garden shelterbelts inner rows of evergreens are frequently included, the seedlings for these being charged for at a nominal rate. by the forest nursery stations.

In all cases at least a year of summerfallow is required before planting if trees are to survive and flourish. With this in mind, shelterbelts should be planted next spring only in those fields which are summerfallowed this year. Further details on the techniques of successful tree planting and information on ordering trees may be obtained from district agricultural representatives.



EXPERTS agree that, along with the selection of good, clean seed, two other factors play a big part in the kind of crop you get at harvest: *seeding at the proper time and at the proper rate*. And you can make sure of getting your crop in when soil and moisture conditions are just right and of seeding in just the right quantity with a John Deere Grain Drill.

When you count on a John Deere —whether it's a high-speed plain grain drill, a press grain drill, a lister grain drill, or a plow press drill—you can be sure of speeding through your planting with fewer stops. The rugged construction of all John Deere Drills makes it possible to maintain higher tractor speeds even in rough, uneven fields. The dependable feeds of a John Deere mean uniform metering of all seed in just the recommended quantity. There are no skips and bare spots or overcrowding that means too heavy a growth and too big a demand on available moisture.

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# Plant protectors give earlier crops

By H. F. HARP

IN our northern short season climate the chances of ripening tomatoes, melons and other warmth-loving plants depends to a large extent on the number of frost-free days. In southern Manitoba the 36-year average number of frost-free days is 122. In some years frost has been recorded as late as June 7th, and as early as Sept. 2nd, 1944, had an unusually long frost-free period: from May 8th until Oct. 1st, giving a total of 144 frost-free days. On the other hand, 1924 had but 93 days without frost.

The use of plant protectors

such as "hotcaps" or "hotents" will extend the season by ten to fifteen days. These protectors are semi-transparent paper covers. The hotcaps measure about a foot in diameter and stand about 6 inches high. The Hotents are larger measuring about 16 x 12 inches and 7½ inches high. There is no doubt of the practical value of plant protectors when they are used intelligently. One thing must be borne in mind, namely, the plants to be protected should be well grown, sturdy plants that have been gradually inured to outdoor conditions and not

weak, spindly plants which will invariably suffer a setback, even if they are covered with plant protectors.

In the Prairie garden it is considered safe to set out tomato plants around May 20 if hotcaps are used. However, the wise gardener will be guided by the weather conditions. It is better to delay the transplanting a few days should the weather be cold and wet. On the other hand, if the weather is fine and appears to be settled advancing the date of planting a few days may be warranted.

The warmest part of the garden is naturally the best site for these early crops. Shelter from the north and west is of great benefit. The plants are set in the usual way and each one given a good soaking with water before the hotcap is placed in position. A week or so later it may be necessary to ventilate the hotcaps if the weather is very warm. This is done by making a hole about two inches in diameter on the south side of the hotcap. Later on when the young plants are seen to be crowding the hotcaps a slit is made in the top to allow the plant to grow through. Care must be taken not to expose them if weather conditions are harsh. The hotcap is left around the base of the plant to provide a measure of shelter from wind. By the middle of the summer it will have disintegrated. The hotent has two wire supports that will interfere with cultivating or hoeing if left around the plant so they had best be removed after they have served their purpose.

## How to Raise Sturdy Plants

Most gardeners like to start a few plants indoors for transplanting to the garden in June. A common mistake is to sow the seed too early, resulting in tall, weak plants that take half

a summer to recover from the shock of transplanting, and rarely yield early fruit. April 1st is a good date to sow tomatoes. A week later is satisfactory if the night temperature doesn't fall below 60°. Space the seeds about half an inch apart and cover them not more than a quarter of an inch deep. Use two parts loamy soil, one part peat and one part sand. If the garden soil is inclined to heaviness, more peat and sand should be used. Place a piece of glass and a sheet of paper over the seed pan until the seed germinates. Apply water at room temperature by partially immersing the seed pan in a container of water, allowing it to remain long enough to become saturated by percolation.

When the seedlings have made their first true leaves they should be transplanted to shallow boxes at a distance of about two inches each way. Keep the boxes in a sunny window to promote sturdy growth.

Peppers and egg plants are given like treatment, but should be sown two weeks earlier than the tomatoes.

By the first of May the young plants can be set out in a garden frame. Some means of keeping out the frost will be necessary and a simple method is hereby outlined:

### Cold Frames Heated with Electric Light Bulbs.

A home-made garden frame constructed to fit storm window sash can be made frost-proof by using one two-hundred-watt light bulb to each ten square feet of frame area. The lights are only needed from sundown until sunrise unless the day is cold and sunless. At such times it will be found necessary to have them burning during the day.

Cold frames can be made from rough lumber, 1" x 12". The height at the back should be about 18"; at the front about 12". The frame is best set facing south to trap all the sunlight possible. The south wall

## Meditations at Twilight

By A. L. MARKS

### Some Things Are Permanent

THE most reliable and the most dangerous thing in the world is truth. For truth is eternal reality.

Falseness is the betrayal of truth. Error is the misconception of truth. You can and must bet your life on truth or your life will fail.

Pilate asked Jesus Christ the most profound question in all history when he asked Him "What is truth?" Jesus had just explained His purpose, but not His identity, to Pilate, by saying: "To this end was I born; and for this purpose I came into the world — that they (we) might know the truth."

We are always seeking for the truth, but often with misgivings, for fear we will find it, if our purpose is not good; for truth, which is the very essence of God, permits no compromises.

It is certainly because we must have faith in the truth that we are sure that God is the Spirit and Reality of Love. If He were otherwise, His Creation would be self-destroying, and could not be eternal, even though love is the will or willingness to sacrifice oneself for another or others, as Jesus demonstrated.

He had explained previously that there could be no greater test of love than that a man lay down his life for his friend.

Let us cherish truth and love. They are all life has for us that are reliable and permanent. Suppose then we also think and act the truth in the spirit of love, for that is the "righteousness" which, we are told, God wants us to seek first, in order to bring about His Kingdom on earth.

Human life is that simple and that difficult.

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of the dwelling house is ideal.

In periods of unseasonably cold weather the gardener will be ready with a cover of burlap or old blankets to make sure frost doesn't penetrate the frame.

#### Ventilation

Fresh air is most important to the well-being of all plants, and no opportunity should be lost to ventilate the frame when the outside temperature rises well above the freezing mark. Blocks of wood, 1" x 2" and 4" long are placed under the sash on the leeward side. Drafts can be ruinous to tender plants, so when the day is cool and windy care must be taken not to over ventilate the frame. When the young plants are growing freely, the sash may be slid back during the sunny hours to give the plants a chance to harden up. This process of hardening is all important and should be done gradually, taking into consideration the vagaries of the weather.

Finally make sure the plants are toughened up before they are set out in the open ground. Better be a few days late than plant out specimens that are soft and tender.

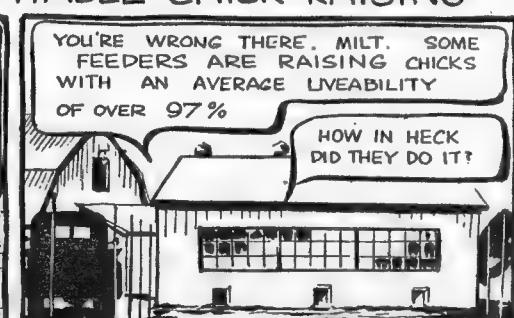
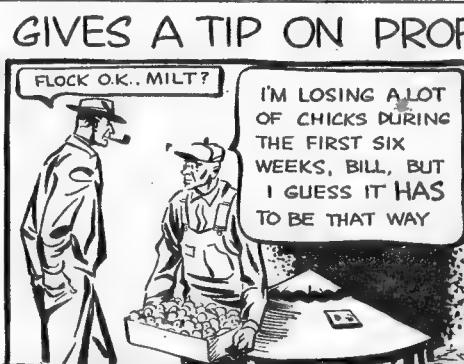
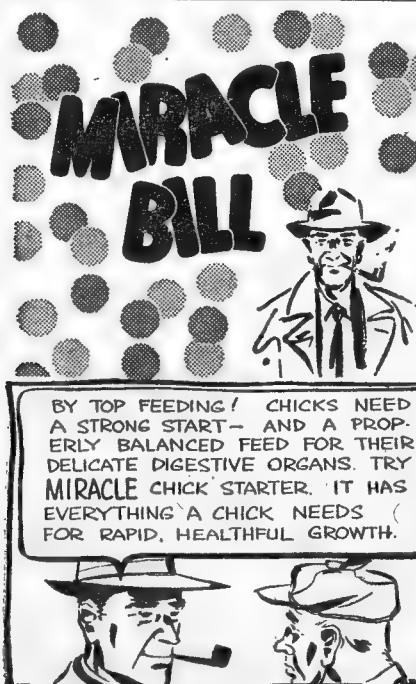
There are usually a few new varieties of tomatoes offered for sale by the seedsmen, and it is commendable to make a test of one or two, but the prudent gardener will depend on the old, tried and proven varieties to provide the bulk of the crop. Such varieties as Early Chat-ham and Bounty are recommended. Meteor, Monarch and Mustang, which were introduced by the Experimental Station, Morden, are finding favor all across the country.

#### Seasonable Hints

**African Violets** — Now is the time to divide these plants; or leaf cuttings may be started to provide young stock. If old plants are to be divided, they should first be allowed to dry out slightly as in this state they are more easily pulled apart. Divide them into single crowns and put them separately into 3" pots. Press the soil only moderately firm and see that it is of a spongy nature. Good African violet soil is made up by mixing 1 part fibrous loam, 1 part peat, 1 part well decomposed manure and 1 part sharp sand. When the young plants are established in their small pots, they should be potted into larger ones; the 4" size is plenty large enough. At no time do they need a pot larger than the 4" size.

#### Leaf Cuttings

Mature leaves are best for propagating and should be inserted around the edge of a 4"



You're losing money when your baby chicks die. Chick losses are caused by many things . . . but mostly by incorrect housing and feeding. A baby chick's tiny digestive system needs a delicately balanced starter feed. That's why so many successful poultrymen use Miracle Chick Starter to get them past the critical first 6 weeks. Miracle Chick Starter's perfect balance of quality ingredients makes it a feed

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Miracle feeds also offer a "start-to-finish" range of poultry feeds, including Miracle Hatching Mash, Miracle Growing Mash and Miracle Laying Mash. All contain superior top-quality ingredients.

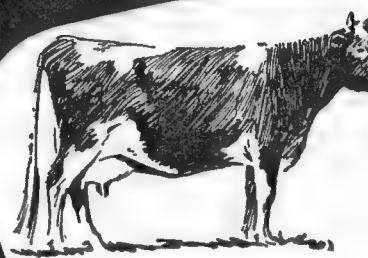
*Be sure of greater average liveability. Ask your dealer for Miracle Chick Starter and other poultry feeds.*

pot of half peat and half sand. Young plants will Rooting takes about a month emerge from the base of the when the leaves are potted into rooted leaves. When they have small pots, using the same soil grown a few inches the old mixture as given the divided leaf is cut off at soil level.



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**MIRACLE Laying Mash** (crumbles or pellets)



## Cattle weight and cost of gain

TESTS at the Lethbridge Experimental Station during the past few months have provided useful information on cattle weight and cost of gain. Dr. Frank Whiting directed the tests. It has been known for some years, he says, that it costs more to put 100 lbs. gain on a 1,000-lb. steer than on a 500-lb. steer, but the magnitude of the difference has not always been fully understood.

Forty-four choice calves, fed a two-to-one ration of grain to hay, comprised the test material here. The hay fed was a mixture of 2/3 alfalfa and one-third crested wheat grass. The grain mixture was composed of 35% barley, 34% oats, 15% dried molasses beet pulp, 10% linseed oil meal, 5% beet molasses, 1/2% salt and 1/2% bonemeal. The animals were fed in individual stalls and slaughtered when they weighed 900 lbs.

Average daily gain, and feed required for 100 lbs. gain, increased as the weight of the animal increased. To put 100 lbs. gain on a steer from 800 to 900 lbs. cost 37% more than to increase the weight from 400 to 500 lbs. In previous steer feeding trials at Lethbridge it cost about 20% more to increase weight from 900 to 1,000 lbs. than from 800 to 900 lbs., Dr. Whiting reports.

Here are results of the tests:

Body Weight of Steer	500 lbs.	600 lbs.	700 lbs.	800 lbs.	900 lbs.
Daily gain	400 -	500 -	600 -	700 -	800 -
Total feed/100 lbs. gain	1.65	1.83	2.00	2.04	2.13
Feed cost/100 lbs. gain	\$11.66	\$12.48	\$13.80	\$14.90	\$16.00

By August 27, it had risen to

### Help Crippled Children

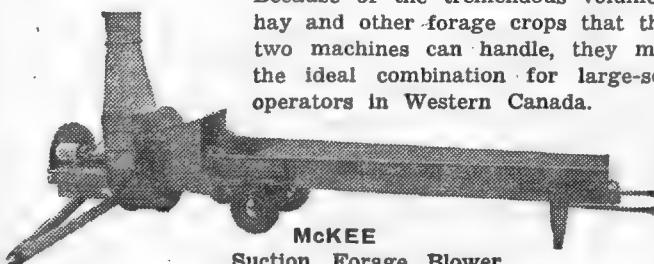
Order your Easter Seals  
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### Speculation in pepper

PEPPER is a commodity which lends itself well to futures trading. Its quality is imperishable and it is easily and cheaply stored. As a result a flourishing futures trade is conducted on the New York Stock Exchange which in a general way sets the world price of pepper. During the early part of this year the price of "spot" Malabar pepper slumped from a high of \$1.02 per pound in January to a low of \$0.49 in June. By August 27, it had risen to

\$1.07 again and by November was down to \$0.52.

Over the years the price of pepper has fluctuated over a wide range. Before World War II over-production resulted in prices as low as \$0.03 a pound. Following the outbreak of the Korean War the peak price of \$2.80 a pound was reached.

Grain producers of Western Canada who, between January and September in 1938 saw the price of wheat drop from \$1.54 to 57 cents a bushel will understand how the producers of pepper must feel about the futures market method of selling their produce.—(The Budget.)

### Co-operation in Canada

CO-OPERATIVE business in Canada amounted to \$1,202,325,902 in the crop year ending July 31, 1953 (the latest year for which figures are available) according to a report written by J. E. O'Meara of the Economics Division, federal department of agriculture. This figure is \$90 million greater than reported for 1952. There were a total of 2,773 co-operatives reporting with a combined membership of 1,429,003.

Farm marketing co-opera-

Province	Co-ops	Member-ship	Value of business
British Columbia	118	75,522	73,974,507
Alberta	354	252,379	185,078,380
Saskatchewan	618	411,792	353,600,817
Manitoba	145	132,412	91,081,419
Ontario	410	162,601	153,074,073
Quebec	827	148,938	148,987,084
New Brunswick	76	14,202	12,879,771
Nova Scotia	116	23,053	24,124,458
Prince Edward Island	39	7,095	6,173,678
Newfoundland	63	8,132	4,041,402
Interprovincial	7	192,877	149,310,313
Total	2,773	1,429,003	\$1,202,325,902

### Weather records

THE experimental farm service reports that the long-time average date of the first seeding of spring grain in the Lethbridge district is April 21 and the average date of the first harvesting of wheat or oats is August 8.

At Lacombe the first seeding of spring grain averages May 2 and first harvesting August 26.

At Beaverlodge seeding begins on May 11 on the average and harvest on August 25.

The average frost-free period at the three stations is as follows: Lethbridge 115 days, Lacombe 79 days and Beaverlodge 97 days.

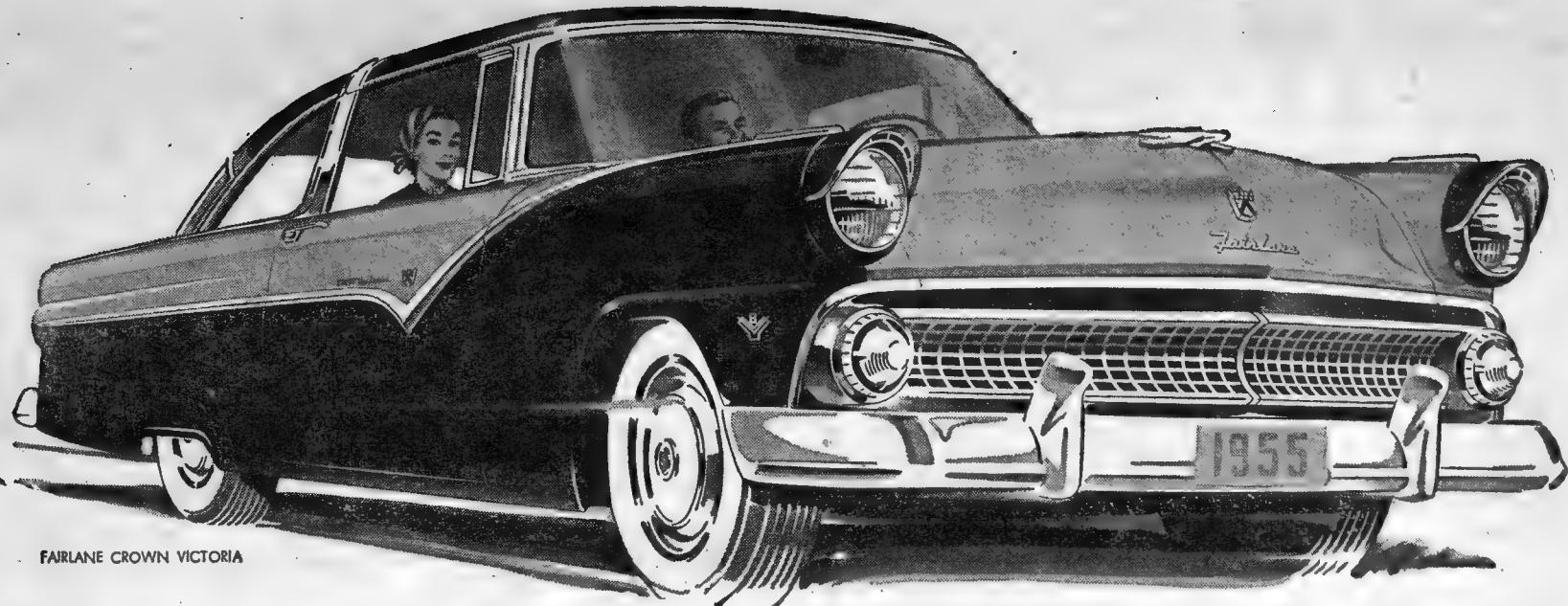
The average date of the last frost in the spring and the first

in the fall is Lethbridge May 21 and September 14, Lacombe June 8 and August 27 and Beaverlodge May 31 and September 6.

Precipitation at the three points averages: Lethbridge 15.9 inches, Lacombe 17.81 and Beaverlodge 17.37 inches.

Thailand has the highest percentage of owner-operated farms in Asia and the Far East. An United Nations expert says Thailand farmers who operate farms own 87 per cent of all farm land in that country.

On a per capita basis Canada is the sixth largest consumer of butter in the world. Consumption averages 22.1 pounds per person. New Zealanders consume nearly double that quantity at 43.9 pounds per person.



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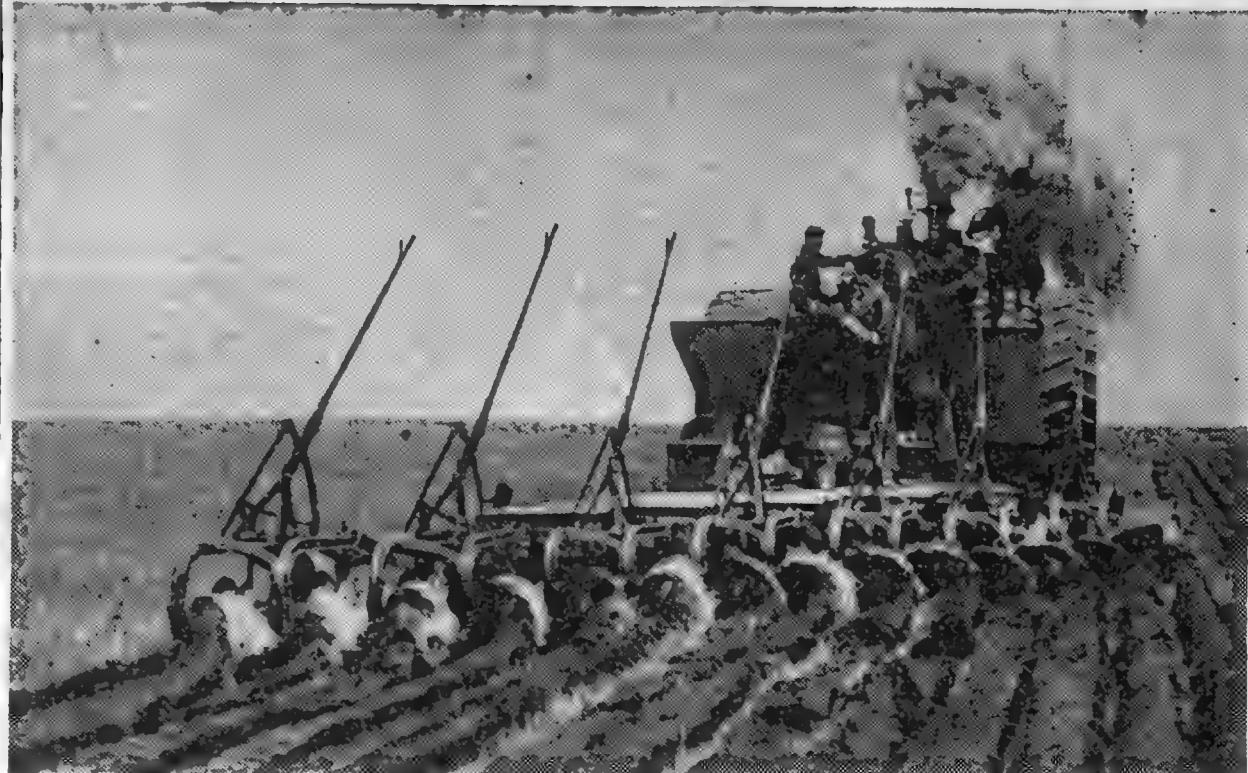
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## Manitoba helps municipalities

THE Provincial Government has informed the municipalities of Wallace and Pipestone that it is prepared, if the plan meets their approval, to take over complete maintenance of certain roads in the area which serve a heavy traffic of oil delivery trucks.

Roads concerned in the municipality of Wallace are the Maryfield Road — from Virden

to Cromer Corner and from Cromer Corner to the southern boundary of the municipality — and the Two Creeks Road from Virden to a point four miles north to Virden.

In Pipestone municipality, the province has offered to maintain the road from the intersection of PTH 83 near Searth directly west to Cromer, thence north to the northern boundary of the municipality.

Decision of the Provincial Government to assume one hundred per cent maintenance of

these roads was reached as a result of a meeting held last May, when representatives of the municipalities of Wallace, Pipestone, Albert and Woodnorth requested aid in defraying the extra cost of road maintenance caused by oil activity in the area.

Glutted gasoline stocks in the United States may result in a cut in price. There is now in reserve 135 gallons of gasoline for every car owner in that country.

## Why not two systems of grading Western hogs?

By LEONARD D. NESBITT

HOG producers in the prairie provinces want a dual basis for the grading of animals they produce. At the present time all hogs delivered are graded "on the rail" basis. Prairie hog producers want hogs for export to the United States or other parts of Canada graded on a live basis.

"Rail" grading means that hogs are graded after they are slaughtered and the carcasses hung "on the rail" in the abattoirs. Government graders then measure the length of the carcass from the shoulder to the H bone, the thickness of fat roundness of hams, thickness of belly, and so on. The idea is to use the pattern of what the British call a "Wiltshire side" in grading. Such provides top quality bacon and ham. The Canadian government pays a premium of \$2 on an A grade hog and \$1 on a B grade.

Canada's prairie region, and particularly the province of Alberta, is a hog-surplus producing area. Outlets for surpluses must be found in eastern Canada, British Columbia and the United States. In Canada hogs are graded wherever they are slaughtered. When a shipment is sent, for instance, to Hamilton, Ontario, the producers must wait until their animals are killed in the packing house in that city. That means that there is a long delay before producers get their returns.

### No Bonus

While the hog producers get the benefit of a federal quality bonus on shipments East and West they do not do so on shipment to the United States. In Alberta exporters to the U.S. northwest states make deals with commission firms or packing houses in Portland, Seattle and Spokane. The price is calculated on the basis of the U.S. price and an effort is made to include in the Canadian price the federal quality bonus. As the average hog shipped to the U.S. is of the B quality, \$1.00 per head is added to the price.

If hogs were graded on the live basis on the Canadian side, the producer would get the bonus of \$1.00 or \$2.00 and hogs produced in this country would be on a more competitive basis. The chances are that shipments would be increased. This would improve the marketing situation right across Canada.

At the recent convention of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture held in Edmonton, a resolution was introduced asking for a dual method of grading. What the prairie producers requested was that hogs exported from this area be graded at the shipping point on a live basis. Charlie Hays and

Hugh Allen, both of Alberta, argued the issue on behalf of the prairie producer. Delegates from the East raised strong objections on the ground that live grading would tend to discourage quality production. The whole matter was finally referred to a special committee which was instructed to bring in a report at the next meeting of the C.F.A.

### Can't Buy

Hogs destined for eastern Canada are sold on a freight-on-board basis Calgary-Edmonton. The buyer pays the freight, but the producer absorbs the shrinkage and delay. There are many small butchers and packers in the East that would buy western hogs but are prevented from doing so because they do not have inspected plants and western sales agencies cannot be too sure of the outturn in dressed weights or of the possibility that slaughter will be delayed longer than usual. Live grading would get around these difficulties.

Generally speaking, the western hog producer wants his hogs graded and in order to obtain a premium for quality, the grade must be official. There is no desire on the part of the efficient producer to lower the quality of his product. At the same time, as mentioned previously, the prairie provinces is a hog-surplus producing area and the producer is concerned with the marketing problem. If surplus hogs in the West result in packers in this part of Canada getting hogs cheaply, they will sell the product, regardless of a regional official grade, to the East, thereby undercutting the eastern provision market and bring about a lower price for eastern hogs. The West is mainly interested in the improvement of its selling position and western producers believe the dual system of grading would help out without disturbing the eastern market.

The whole subject will again be brought to the fore at the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and representatives of producers in the prairie provinces are out to make a strong bid for optional grading of hogs exported from this region.

In any civilization there comes a moment, when, if it is to continue, civilization must become ruralization. All its economics, all its amenities, its armies, and its splendour depend on one thing: the reverent use of its soil.

— The Earl of Portsmouth  
(Viscount Lymington)  
Alternative to Death

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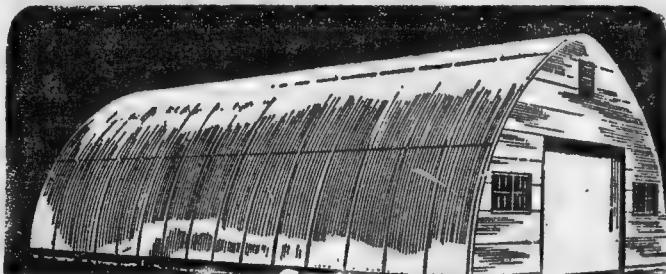
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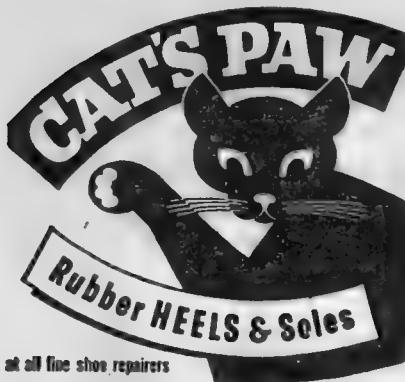
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## A Little Wheat— A Little Chaff

By IVAN HELMER

We Shouldn't Complain Too Much About Life — After All It's Only Temporary.

Fraid we have had to resort to research for this month's page — research in this business is reading other people's stuff and using what seems good:

A New York minister, Dr. Norman Peale, says that contrary to popular opinion he thinks America has a patron Saint. The English have St. George, the Irish, St. Patrick, and over here we have St. Vitus.

Anyway there is no doubt the United States is a wide awake Nation — it takes some 22,000,000 sleeping pills a night to get it to sleep.

A farmer in Iowa says he is hoping his neighbors will be needing some new fences because, according

to a letter received from his son in college, the boy is taking up fencing.

Dr. Brown, speaking in Winnipeg on Education and children said: "Children were once a distinct asset in the home. They worked for their father and mother. Now they work for neither."

Everything in the modern home is now done by pressing a button. In fact you might say that everything is now controlled by switches except the children."

Everybody likes fun, but most people could get along without it if it's all charged at the following rate:

"They laughed back in 1951 as Wm. G. Dunne sat down on a bench, rose quickly and fell to the floor during a Shriner's initiation at Pueblo, Colo. The boys had wired the bench with electricity.

Dunne got the last laugh yesterday, when the Colorado supreme court awarded him \$44,918.00 in damages against the Al Kaly Temple for a permanent neck injury."

Some shock! — and quite a pain in the neck.

People who complain about the price of meat have little to howl about when they consider the plight of actor Sonny Tufts who had to fork out \$600.00 for one alleged bite from an actress' leg, grabbed while she was lying aboard a yacht.

At least he must have his own teeth — the bite is said to have left a three-inch scar.

A London, England newspaper item states:

"Britain today came up with alcoholic milk. The government has granted a Dairy a license to spike its milk. It comes in four flavors: whiskey, brandy, rum and gin, and will sell for 35 cents per four-ounce bottle."

The manager of the Dairy (a lady) explained that she hit upon the idea of alcoholic milk because:

"I hate cows and never drink milk."

Her son who helps operate the dairy said he ordered the dairy's experts to start experimenting with alcoholic flavors sometime ago. "They were amazingly successful," he said.

Seems to us it may lead to plenty of trouble; not the kind of stuff you could leave around for the baby to get into, nor to feed the cat before you turn it loose at night. And if the dairy gets a few heavy drinkers on the payroll there may be days when the customer will have to forego his little nip.

### Many a Rich Man Finds His Relatives Wanting.

Perhaps when we are all worrying about the high cost of setting the table we should "watch the birdie".

Alan Devoe, a writer in Reader's Digest offers this information:

"One infant robin eats as much as 14 feet of earthworms a day. A wren whose feeding trips to her youngsters were counted between sunrise and nightfall visited the nest 1,217 times.

A young black tern, weighing 31 grams, consumed daily 48 grams of food. To survive, every bird must eat at least half its own weight in food each day."

In a book of Epitaphs compiled by Wm. H. Beable, and gathered from old churchyards in England and America, we found some fascinating and curious reading:

Benjamin Franklin devised this one for his own:

**The Body  
of  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN  
Printer**

(like the cover of an old book)  
Its contents torn out,  
And stripped of its lettering and  
gilding

Lies here food for worms:  
Yet the work itself shall not be lost,  
For it will, as he believed, appear  
once more.

In a new  
And more beautiful edition  
Corrected and amended  
by  
The Author.

And here is a lady who died in Britain in 1741 taking a crack at prohibitionists (or perhaps it was her husband):

*She drank good ale, good punch  
and wine.*

*And lived to the age of 99.*

And another from the old country regarding the wife of a man who apparently couldn't get much of a recommend from the Board of Trade:

*Here lies Mary, the wife of John Ford,  
We hope her soul is gone to the  
Lord,  
But if for Hell she has changed  
this life  
She had better be there than be  
John Ford's wife.*

*Wonder if this was paid for by a  
bookie: 1687:*

*Here lies Stephen Rumbold  
He lived to the age of a hundred  
and one  
Sanguine and strong —  
A hundred to one you don't live so  
long.*

*In Devon, on the stone of a philosopher, 1637:*

*Fear not to die,  
Learn this of me,  
No fear in death  
If good thou be.*

*And here is one from a man with  
no concern for public opinion:*

*Reader, pass on, nor waste your  
precious time  
On bad biography and murdered  
rhyme;  
What I was before's well known to  
my neighbors,  
What I am now is no concern of  
yours.*

*And as a last sample this apparently  
much quoted epitaph used as  
propaganda by the grave diggers in  
Folkstone, Kent who reprinted it from  
a gravestone of 1688 and sent it to  
their employers asking for more  
wages to meet the increase in Rents  
under a new Rent Act:*

*A house she hath, it's made of  
such good fashion  
The tenant ne'er shall pay for  
reparation;  
Nor will the landlord ever raise the  
rent,  
Or turn her out of doors for none  
payment.  
From chimney-money, too, this cell  
is free  
To such a house as this who would  
not Tenant be.*

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Last fall one day when Dad and I were baling some wheat around the crop we came around a bush surrounded by a slough. We saw a rabbit eating the wheat there. When the rabbit saw us he went to go into the bush and instead he ran into the water. Then he started to swim and he swam into the bush. It was the first time that I had ever seen a rabbit swim.

Barry Tarr.

Craven, Sask.

I saw on our farm Pussy Willows last November. We had some nice, warm weather, and then a rain. I guess the Pussy Willows thought it was spring and started to bloom.

Dickie Schempp.

Care of Mac Higgins,  
Maidstone, Sask.

Last spring my brother set some pheasant eggs. He raised four pheasants. One cock bird turned out to be quite a fighter. He chased the roosters and makes them run. He likes to chase Daddy, too, and try to fight with him. Best of all he likes to chase our red tractor. As soon as the tractor starts, he comes running out of the bush and will run after it down the lane.

Garry Smulan.

Wawota, Sask.

One day my brother and I were getting straw from the straw pile. I took a forkfull of straw, and, to my surprise, a round ball fell out. I picked it up and examined it. I was just going to throw it away when I saw it was a gopher. We brought it home and put it by the stove, but it would not come to life. It must have been in the middle of the straw pile, but we took some straw away and it froze to death. That was the first time I found one hibernating.

Ernest Welter.

Box No. 8, Plunkett, Sask.

Last spring we started our tractor. The pop-pop-pop sound it made attracted several partridges. They came running out of the bushes towards the tractor. Their tails were up. They were very belligerent and ready for battle. They did not pay much attention to us, but went at the tractor, jumping at the wheels and pecking at them. We wondered why the partridges acted that way. Was it because the sound the tractor made sounded very much like the love call of the male partridges when they are "drumming", by beating their wings?

Fred Garsuk.

Box 235, Two Hills, Alberta.

This fall, when storing the tiller-seeder away for the winter I opened the lid and there was the biggest mouse's nest I ever saw in my life. It was well insulated with feathers and chewed up straw so they must have planned on using it for a winter home. Two big field mice ran out of it, so I pulled the nest out. It contained 10 young mice about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. All were smooth and fat but one. That poor creature was so thin and mummied looking his head was almost as big as his body and every rib showed. I could only conclude that Mother Nature had given mother mouse a poor deal — 10 babies with only the means to nurse 9 of them at once, hence the weaker one had to go hungry most of the time.

E. M. Harvey.

Strasburg, Sask.

Our neighbor caught a lynx. We had never seen one, so Daddy took us down to see it. It looks like a house cat only bigger. It would be as tall as a man if it stood on its back legs. It is as big as a dog. It looks kind, but I guess it isn't. It has tufts of black hair on its ears and chin. There have been several of them seen this winter around here.

Judy Moorhouse.

Breton, Alberta.

On Dec. 27, while fishing through a hole in the ice on P.F.R.A. dam, I happened to notice a lone wild Mallard duck. It circled around and then landed on the ice about 200 yards away. I thought it was unusual to see a duck at this time of year.

Lloyd J. Johnston.

R.R. 2, Longbank, Sask.

When we feed our dog, the cats like to share his food, so the dog will pick up the dish with his teeth and carry it away without spilling any of the food. In winter, when we feed him in the basement, we often find his dish at the top of the stairs, where he had carried it, ready to take out.

Lorra Giesbrecht.

Box 16, Plum Coulee, Man.

When it was time for doing the chores, I went to feed the chickens. When finishing this, I started to collect the eggs. To my surprise I found a very large hen's egg. It was three times the size of an ordinary egg. Inside I found a perfect egg, shell and all in the big egg. There was also some egg white between the ordinary egg and the shell of the large egg. This is the largest egg I have ever seen.

Betty Doreen Farr.

Craven, Sask.

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## We've got far too many organizations claiming our time

By RUTH LOGAN HARGRAVES

ONE day a woman phoned her neighbor to see if she would accompany her to a local ladies' meeting. Her invitation was refused with a torrent of excuses. It was ten minutes before she was able to hang up, for it took her neighbor that long to enumerate her reasons for not being able to go — all of them previous engagements at other meetings or public functions.

"I haven't got time to spit!" wailed the overworked lady.

There are thousands like her. Every community has dozens of men and women who are being run ragged trying to belong to, and attend, all the various organizations of which they feel they ought to be a member. All of these organizations are undoubtedly worthy of support. Yet it is impossible for everyone to belong to them all, even if they were expected to attend a meeting once in a while. But every organization needs money, and in order to get funds, they must be raised, and who but the members will raise them? So it's a cake today and a pie tomorrow, and your presence requested at a social

function — and a dollar, if you please!

Most communities have their Churches, and the organizations that belong to them; their Home and School; their farm organizations and Agricultural Societies; their W.I. and I.O.D.E., etc.; their Hospital Auxiliary; and their Red Cross; not to mention Service Clubs, Sport Clubs and Lodges. Rural communities are further burdened, in that they have added business organizations such as their Co-operatives, Rural Electrification and Telephone Associations, along with village and Municipal affairs.

A farmer made the remark recently that if he were to attend all the Annual Meetings, which were connected purely with the business of farming, that would be held during January and February, he would need to hire a man to take care of his farm for those two months while he spent his entire time attending to the business of organizations which were set up to help him with his farming.

Undoubtedly they should be attended. Every farmer should know what is going on in his Co-op., his Rural Electrification set-up, or his Municipality. If the Telephone Association is going in the red, he wants to know about it, and why, and the place to find out about it is at the Annual Meeting. It is also the place to register his complaints if he has any.

A man was grousing about the over-spending in the Municipal Council. "I didn't see you at the Annual Meeting," his neighbor reproved him. "There's where you want to make your kick."

"I know!" said the farmer. "But the day of the Annual Meeting I was running a maternity ward for my ewes. I figured I couldn't afford to go away and leave them."

He was no doubt right. Yet could he afford to stay away from the meeting either?

### More and More

Every year brings an increase in Clubs and Organizations, rather than a decrease. Each needs good leadership. Too often the same people find themselves saddled with the job of heading five or six worthwhile community projects. Pick out a leader or director of almost any public enterprise, and you will find that he or she is also holding down important offices in several other groups of community effort.

Mothers of families are even more harassed. They belong to whatever clubs and societies they feel they have time for. Usually they reckon without taking their children into con-



## Safety Sam Says...



*Better charge  
a buffalo...*

*than drive  
too fast on  
ice or snow!*

It's as simple as this. In Winter, snow usually falls. Snow usually gets hard and slippery. If you drive too fast over something that's hard and slippery, you're apt to skid and bust something . . . yourself, usually. Then for goodness sakes why not drive slow? And use tire chains?



*Published in the interests of Public Safety . . . by*



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**REMEMBER . . . THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN**

sideration. Once Junior or Sister Sue start to school, they become involved in social activities, which means that Mother is automatically involved whether she would or no. It's a costume for this, or a cake for that, and your services required in the kitchen, please, where the catering goes on apace for the Bean Supper. And Mother can't say "No". She might be able to if it were her own Club involved, but not when it's something to do with the children.

As one woman put it, "You are licked from the start!"

It is easy enough to wail about being over-organized, but not so easy to do anything about the things already underway and going strong. They are all worthy projects, without a doubt, and if we scrap one, which one should it be? The most optimistic person couldn't hope to get an answer to that one. But we can refrain from starting others.

#### Look at These

In a small town of some four hundred souls, some well meaning gent with more enthusiasm than brains, tried to start another Service Club. The town already had, just to mention a few, a Curling Club; a Home and School; a W.I.; three Churches with their organizations pertaining thereto; a Lion's Club; a Board of Trade; a Credit Union; a Hospital Auxiliary; a Red Cross; and many other enterprises pertaining to the village and the community surrounding it. Yet this well meaning individual thought that the town should have yet another organization for its tired citizens to support.

"It does very good work," he argued stoutly.

We agree. So do any number of other Service Clubs and Societies. But it is possible to have too much of a good thing. We have a friend, who, if asked to put a teaspoon of salt into the stew, will add six, reasoning that if one is good, six will be six times better. It doesn't work out, either with the stew or with organizations.

Possibly we can each do something about this business of becoming over-organized. Maybe we should watch that we are not always suckers for a good cause. It doesn't matter how good the cause, or how good the new venture, if we haven't got the time to support it. Strong support is the life-blood of group enterprise. Without that it cannot flourish. If more people realized that, these foundlings of a noble idea, that are born to flourish for a day, then slowly languish, droop and die, would never be conceived.

What we need is more consolidation of ideas and purpose, rather than sub-division. If we had this, perhaps some men and women, always too zealous in public service, would have time to spend an evening at home with their families once in a

dog's age. Possibly others would be able to avoid a Hospital bed, victims of nervous breakdowns, brought on from the stress and strain of expending too much energy in community affairs.

To be well organized is an excellent thing for any community. To be over-organized is a tragedy.

Tests of synthetic soil conditions conducted across Canada in the past two years do not indicate that such have a place in general farming practice in Canada. Except for one station in Nova Scotia the chemical did not produce any noticeable increase in yields on oats, sugar beets, wheat, barley, corn and potatoes.

## 10% FREE CHICKS

Added to All Orders for  
**Pringle Amazon Chicks**

ordered 4 wks. in advance of delivery.

## LOWER 1955 PRICES

on HIGH-QUALITY R.O.P. Sired and Canadian Approved Chicks.

MEAN — Increased Savings for the thrifty Farm Wife.

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B.B.B. TURKEY POULOTS  
ENJOY BIGGER PROFITS  
with Pringle AMAZON Chicks  
ORDER NOW!

PRINGLE ELECTRIC HATCHERIES

CALGARY — EDMONTON  
CHILLIWACK, B.C.

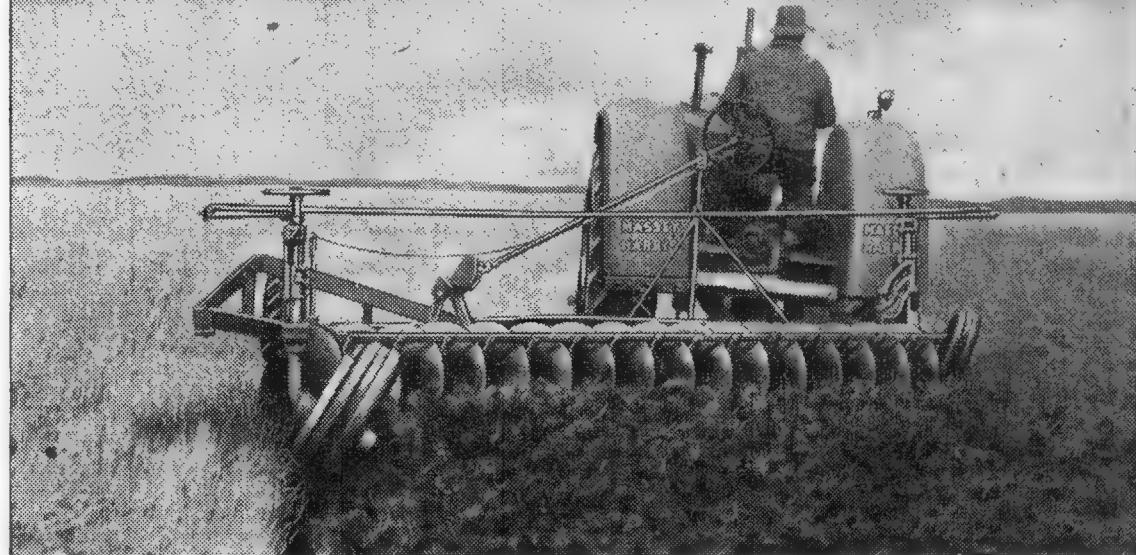
## HI-SUGAR NEW HYBRID TOMATO

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FREE BIG 164 PAGE SEED & NURSERY BOOK FOR 1955

DOMINION SEED HOUSE  
GEOGETOWN, ONT.

## These M-H Soil Management Machines are engineered for longer service



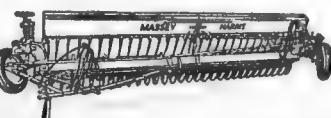
509 One-Way Disc gives longer service and better trash coverage because of exclusive M-H Roto-Lift, which raises or lowers the discs gently but positively.

Here, for the better management of your soil, are some of the Massey-Harris tillage machines that have proven themselves where proof counts—in the field! Long before they reach the dealer's showroom, they've been track-tested and modified, field-tested and improved again. They've been engineered to last for years and to keep running without costly breakdowns.

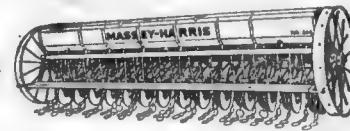
So it's no surprise that these Massey-Harris machines turn in the kind of job that wins your praise. Year after year they will give you dependable service, preparing the soil for maximum yield by promoting good soil and moisture conservation.



28 Trash King in this new 7-foot size is a heavy-duty cultivator for surface or subsoil cultivation. Specially designed for average-size tractors on small farms. Also 10 and 12-foot sizes. Wide choice of teeth.



26 Wide Level Disc Harrow also has Roto-Lift, the finest lift mechanism in the industry. Leaves trash well-anchored to preserve moisture. In 9, 12, or 15-foot widths.



306 Seed Drill will give light, medium or heavy penetration as required. Constant height mechanical power lift. Design eliminates bunching, missing or skipping of seed.

**Massey-Harris-Ferguson**

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**WANTED:**

Salesmen, Dealers and Distributors to sell our Genuine Knotless Baler and Binder Twine manufactured on new Mackhaul Gill Spinner by best, most modern mills. Our large buying power enables us to make large discounts to dealers and distributors. Liberal Commissions paid salesmen. We maintain warehouses in New York and Philadelphia ready to make fast shipments to Canadian Dealers and Distributors.

Please write us in English.

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CHARITON

IOWA

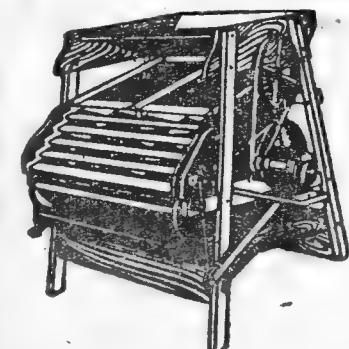
There's a Growing Market for TURKEYS — AND INCREASING DEMAND for HALLMAN'S Broad-Breasted Bronze TURKEY POULTS

because HALLMAN'S "Champion Strain" has been developed through years of culling the FINEST breeding stock from Turkey Ranches EXCLUSIVELY serving HALLMAN HATCHERIES.  
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**"WINNER"**  
FANNING MILL



ECONOMICAL TO BUY the new, improved "WINNER" Fanning Mill will very quickly pay its way in time, money and labor saved. "The mill with the slats on the sieve."

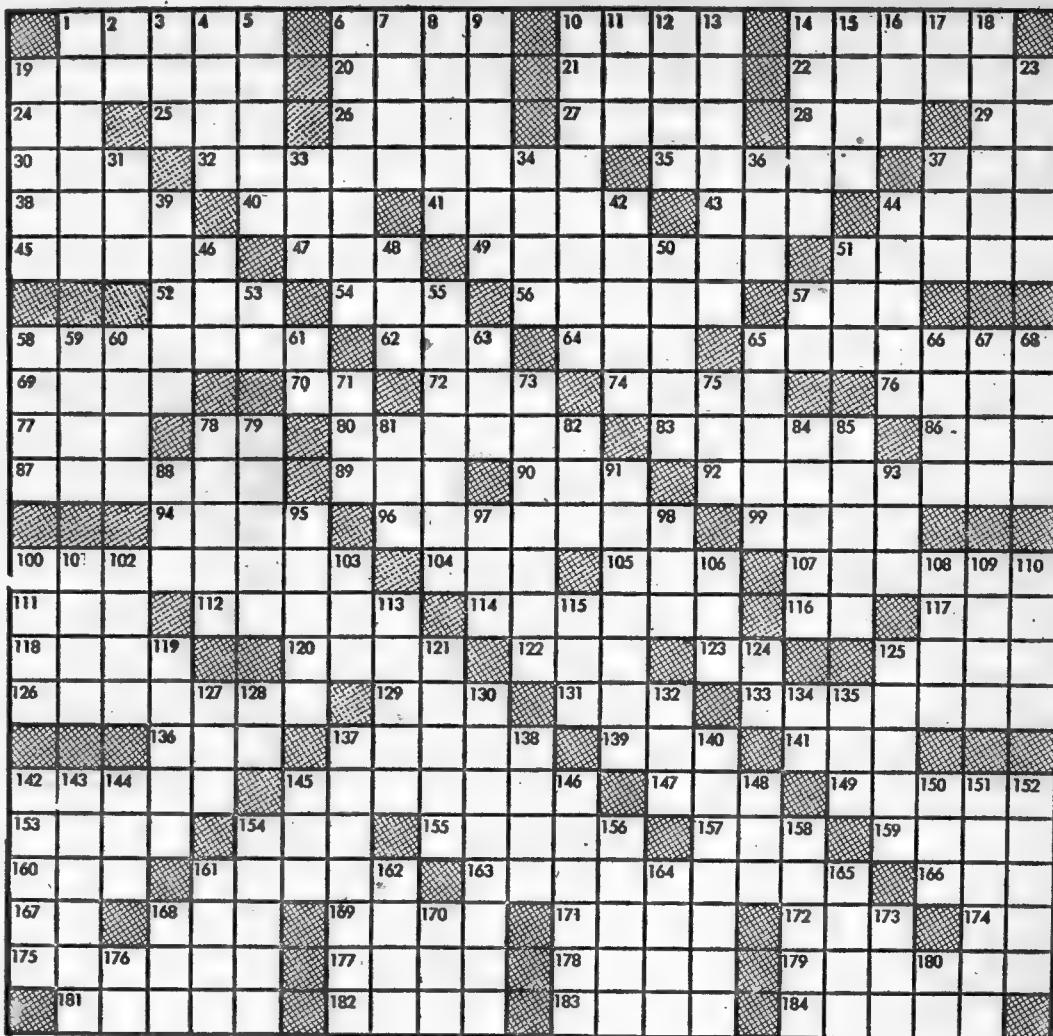
**CHECK THESE FEATURES:**

- Perfect separation of all grains.
- 12 sieves and screens.
- Hand and power operated.
- 5 models, 24", 28", 32", 40".

Write for information.

**CALGARY FARM MACHINERY LTD.**

807-817 SECOND STREET EAST CALGARY, ALBERTA

**Our Crossword Puzzle****HORIZONTAL**

1 One wrong-fully condemned  
6 Madam (contr.)  
10 A bed (Eng.)  
14 Geometric figure  
19 Salt meat (pl.)  
20 Vedic fire god  
21 Prepare for print  
22 Disclose  
24 Form of "to be"  
25 To dress  
26 Negative votes  
27 Cameroon native  
28 Indonesian of Mindanac  
29 Syllable of scale  
30 Excavation  
32 Roofers  
35 Strike  
37 Border  
38 Eskers  
40 Prefix; three  
41 American Indians  
43 Compass point  
44 Flannel  
45 Thrust back  
47 Snake  
49 Exerts to the utmost  
51 Thin metal disk  
52 Hawaiian food  
54 Head covering  
56 Heating vessels  
57 Man's nickname

58 Annals  
62 Seize  
64 Japanese coir  
65 Ballplayer  
69 Man's name  
70 Exclamation of surprise  
72 Henpeck  
74 Yokel  
76 Ireland  
77 Nothing  
78 White  
80 Turkish city  
83 One who finishes sides of hampers  
86 --- Fall, crowning, stone of Irish kings  
87 Languid  
89 Extinct bird  
90 In music: high  
92 Stair post  
94 Storage containers  
96 Snored  
99 Fissure  
100 Chronic mental disorder  
104 Immerse  
105 Body of water  
107 Insert  
111 Collection of facts  
112 Icelandic tales  
114 Reprimanded  
116 Teutonic deity  
117 Indian  
118 Heavy cord  
120 Ardor  
122 Silkworm  
123 Hawaiian bird  
125 Run away  
126 Rags

129 Exclamation imitating sound of heavy blow  
131 Away  
133 Looking glass (pl.)  
136 Blackbird  
137 Nut  
139 Still  
141 Duet  
142 Cavils  
145 Lingers  
147 Make mistake  
149 Issues  
153 Succulents  
154 Plant  
155 Growing out  
157 River Island  
159 English boys' school  
160 Cask  
161 Frequent  
163 One who unloads vessel  
166 Bring legal action against  
167 Man's nickname  
168 Celtic Neptune  
169 Greek letter  
171 Rant  
172 Tree  
174 Symbol for tellurium  
175 Paul -----  
177 Fancy carrying case  
178 German river  
179 Funeral orations  
181 Dwelled  
182 Genuine  
183 Weight of India (pl.)  
184 Satisfied

**VERTICAL**

1 Light loose shirt  
2 Mulberry  
3 Buddhist pillar  
4 --- and Andy  
5 Behold  
6 Masculine  
7 In eager desire  
8 To gönöint  
9 Money hoarders  
10 Dinner course (pl.)  
11 Room in harem  
12 Title of respect (pl.)  
13 Parts of flower  
14 To babble  
15 Network of nerves  
16 Yellow bugle  
17 Direction  
18 Member of armed forces  
19 Flavor  
23 A Sweetheart  
31 Faucet  
33 Babylonian war god  
34 Ceremony  
36 Those in power  
37 Rodent  
39 Thrust back  
42 More lucid  
44 Medieval missile  
46 African worm which infests eye  
48 God of forests  
50 Ancient Roman deity  
51 Fondle  
53 Prefix: not  
55 Drinking vessel  
57 Musical syllable

58 Wrest  
59 Turkish title  
60 Heap  
61 Therefore  
63 Cry of sheep  
65 Tree  
66 Part of sword  
67 Great Lake  
68 Raise  
71 Kind of meat  
73 To seize one another  
75 Child's napkin  
78 Compound derived from ammonia  
79 Ecclesiastical council  
81 A negation  
82 High mountain  
84 Choice part  
85 Popular report  
88 Loose sleeveless outer garment  
91 Depose  
93 Babylonian numeral  
95 Borders  
97 Sloths  
98 River of England  
100 Portion  
101 Ox of the Celebes  
102 Entranced  
103 Mulberry  
106 Bustle  
108 Game  
109 Roman road  
110 Female deer (pl.)  
113 Kind of sword  
115 A negro people of Nigeria  
119 Public storehouse  
121 Mother of pearl

124 Sacred Hindu word  
125 Lake in Australia  
127 Abstract being  
128 Japanese measure  
130 Principal soil  
132 Legal charge  
134 Fish  
135 Regret  
137 Basket for carrying provisions  
138 Tidy  
140 Merchants  
142 Provide supply of food  
143 Pear-shaped pot in chemistry  
144 King Arthur's lance  
145 Greek letter  
146 Cubic meters  
148 River (Sp.)  
150 Pronoun  
151 Gave tips on race horses  
152 Cuts, after snick  
154 Uncovered  
156 Elude  
158 Woody plants  
161 At this place  
162 Carry  
164 At all times  
165 Girl's name  
168 Bulgarian coin  
170 Philippine tree  
173 Bright saying  
176 Roman number  
180 Earth goddess

**Solution Next Month**

# FUNLAND

THE FAMILY ENTERTAINER

## PICTURE ARITHMETIC

**I**F YOU DO ALL THESE EXAMPLES CORRECTLY, THEIR ANSWERS WILL BE NUMBERS FROM ONE TO TWENTY-THREE.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 3+2= \bullet & 7+3= \bullet \\
 2 \times 2= \bullet & 3 \times 2= \bullet \\
 5-4= \bullet & 15-4= \bullet \\
 6-3= \bullet & 30-7= \bullet \\
 1+1= \bullet & 11+11= \bullet \\
 3 \times 7= \bullet & 5 \times 4= \bullet \\
 15+4= \bullet & 3 \times 6= \bullet \\
 2 \times 6= \bullet & 20-3= \bullet \\
 16-3= \bullet & 4 \times 4= \bullet \\
 5+5= \bullet & \\
 3 \times 3= \bullet & \\
 4+4= \bullet & \\
 7+7= \bullet & \\
 13 \rightarrow 14 \rightarrow 15 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 17 \rightarrow 18 \rightarrow 19 \rightarrow 20 \rightarrow 21 \rightarrow 22 \rightarrow 23 \rightarrow 24 \rightarrow 25 \rightarrow 26 \rightarrow 27 \rightarrow 28 \rightarrow 29 \rightarrow 30 \rightarrow 31 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 33 \rightarrow 34 \rightarrow 35 \rightarrow 36 \rightarrow 37 \rightarrow 38 \rightarrow 39 \rightarrow
 \end{array}$$



THEN CONNECT THE DOTS NEAREST YOUR ANSWERS, IN THEIR ORDER, TO DRAW A PICTURE.

$$3 \times 5 = \bullet$$



DRAW IN THE LINES TO FINISH MY PICTURE.



**AN OBSERVATION GAME**  
TO WIN YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FIND AT LEAST 15 THINGS HERE THAT BEGIN WITH THE LETTER "B."



BOTTLE, BAT, BELT, BENCH, BALL, BIRD, BONE, BOOK, BOOT, BOTTLE, BOX, BOW, BOY, BUG, BUTTERFLY AND BONE.

KIDS: CHANGE ONE LETTER IN "OAK" TO SPELL THE NAME OF AN ANIMAL.  
CHANGE OAK TO VAK.

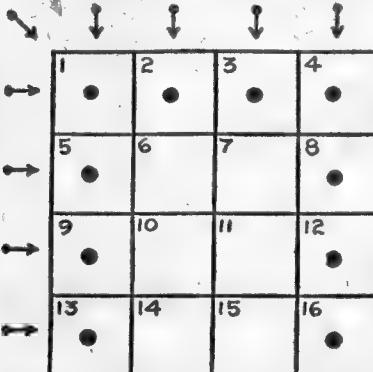
CHANGE ELM TO ELM.  
CAN YOU CHANGE ONE LETTER IN "ELM" TO SPELL AN ANIMAL?

## IT'S YOUR MOVE

by A.W.NUGENT

THE WORLD'S LEADING PUZZLEMAKER

**Y**OUR PROBLEM IS TO PLACE TEN SMALL COUNTERS ON THE DOTS. THEN TRY TO MOVE ONLY FOUR TO EMPTY BOXES SO THAT THE TEN ROWS, INDICATED BY THE ARROWS, WILL CONTAIN EITHER TWO OR FOUR COUNTERS.



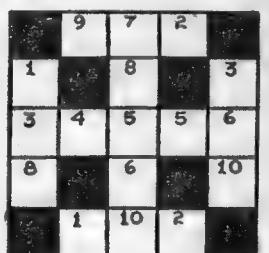
MOVES: MOVE 1 TO 6, 4 TO 7, 12 TO 10 AND 13 TO 14.

## A JUNIOR CRYPTIC CROSS-WORD PUZZLE

**Y**OU MUST FIND YOUR OWN SOLUTION TO THIS ONE.

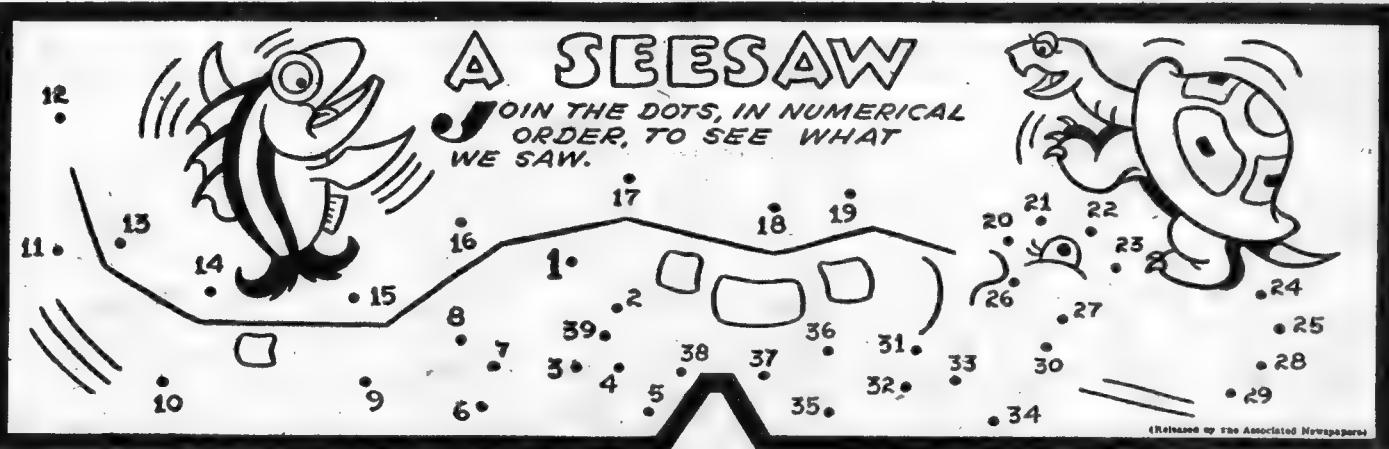
**A**LL YOU DO TO COMPLETE IT IS TO PRINT IN THE CRYPTIC LETTERS, SHOWN BELOW, IN THE CORRESPONDING NUMBERED BOXES.

11-28-54



(Released by The Associated Newspapers)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
A E F L O R S T U Y



(Released by The Associated Newspapers)

## KIDDIE CORNER

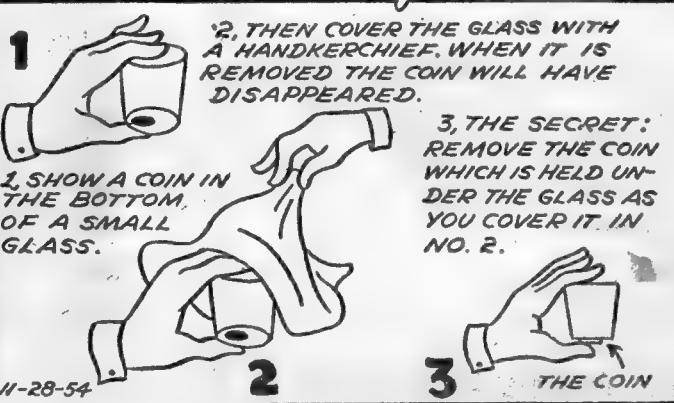
**C**AN YOU COMPLETE 8 WORDS BY PRINTING A LETTER OVER EACH DASH? ANY 8 WILL DO.

—	—	O	T
—	—	O	T
—	—	O	T
—	—	O	T

O  
T  
T  
T  
O  
T  
T  
T

HERE ARE EIGHT: COAT, DOG, GOAT, HOG, LOAF, NOSE, POLE, TOT.

## The Vanishing Coin



3. THE SECRET: REMOVE THE COIN WHICH IS HELD UNDER THE GLASS AS YOU COVER IT IN NO. 2.

3 THE COIN

2

1

1



## Chocolate Cream Cake

Bake it  
with MAGIC  
and serve it  
with pride!

• You can really take a bow when it's your very own baking! And when they praise the sumptuous appearance of this lovely Magic cake... wait till they taste the luscious golden goodness inside!

Yes, for cakes that look glamorous... and taste out-of-this-world... bake them yourself with Magic. Dependable Magic Baking Powder makes them extra delicious, light as a feather... protects those costly ingredients, too. Yet it costs less than 1¢ per average baking! Get Magic today and use it in everything you bake!

### CHOCOLATE CREAM CAKE

1½ cups sifted pastry flour or 1½ cups sifted all-purpose flour	¾ cup fine granulated sugar
2½ tsps. Magic Baking Powder	3 egg yolks, well beaten
½ tsp. salt	½ cup milk
6 tbsps. butter or margarine	½ tsp. vanilla

Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together 3 times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar; beat in well-beaten egg yolks. Measure milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with three additions of milk and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 20 to 25 minutes. Fill and cover cold cake with 7-minute frosting; top with swirls of melted chocolate.



## Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

And now the blustery March winds,

Are blowing round the door;  
Forget the winds . . . and talk of hints,

To help us more and more.

IT seems to me that I have explained a certain matter to you several times, but it looks as if I'll have to repeat it again . . . and so here goes. All newspaper copy has to be prepared ahead of date of publication. For instance before this March issue comes to you I have already written my April copy. So it naturally follows when you write me during this month and request me to place certain answers or information in "the next issue" (meaning April), I cannot comply with your request. The very best I can do is place it in the May issue . . . and if it happens that I already have previous requests awaiting then it may be June or July before you see the particular item in print that you are interested in. Understand? That is why we ask you to enclose your stamped, self-addressed envelope for a private reply.

Going back to the January number, there were two questions on my other page that created quite a flurry of correspondence. In fact, they prompted so many of you to write that I have moved them onto this page and will feature them as the hero and heroine of this column. Or maybe it would be more fitting if we name them "villian and villianess" for they did provoke quite an adverse controversy. The two I'm referring to are: (1) Converting a sewing machine into a spinning wheel; (2) recipe for Icelandic cake.

I confessed to you that when I contacted several machine men about this first question they all acted as if they thought I had gone "off my rocker" for thinking that such a thing could be done. Well, it was encouraging to find out how many of you readers flew to my defense and assured me I was still very sane! But I will admit that I made one mistake when I used the word "converted", for apparently it is not a case of conversion, but attachment. I got a very chubby bundle of letters about this subject . . . some of you told me of your home-made ones, others enclosed newspaper cuts of the diagram and still others offered theirs for sale or stated where the attachments could be purchased new. I have made notes of all the varied information and forwarded copies to the lady who brought up this subject in the first place (Mrs. M. E., Langley Prairie, B.C.). The handicraft of spinning is being revived again so many of you may wish to know where you can obtain attachments for your sewing machine so you can get busy a-spinning. Here is where

you write: Spinwell Products, Sifton, Manitoba.

And now for the Icelandic cake that was asked for in the January issue (and I gave you such a poor substitute for it . . . so I have been told repeatedly). I have checked over all the recipes submitted and they all seem very similar: the only variation is in the spelling. Here are some of the varied spelling of the name: Vinarteria, Vinentarta, Vena Tarte, Vinertarta, Viktoria Torte . . . you take it from there! Now for the recipe (which I have not tried to date . . . but will): 1 cup butter, 1½ cups granulated sugar, 2 eggs, 2 tbsps. cream, 4 cups flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1½ tbsps. almond extract, 1 tsp. cardamom seed (obtainable at druggist's) or 1 tsp. vanilla.

Method: Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs one at a time and beat well. Sift dry ingredients and work in well. Add flavoring and cream. Knead well and divide into five equal portions (some readers said four and some six). Roll out into circles to fit into nine-inch round cake tins. (If you haven't that many tins I suppose you could use these foil pie pans). Bake in oven 375° F. until golden brown. Remove from tins while still hot. Put together with prune filling given below.

Prune Filling: 1 lb. prunes boiled and stoned and put through food chopper. Then add 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ cup water in which fruit was cooked and add one tsp. vanilla. (But some really went to town and suggested adding brandy, rum and goodness knows what else . . . it is left to one's own taste, I presume). Place this filling in between layers of cake . . . and there you have it.

I'm sure you've all had the experience of making a thorough search for some mislaid article and not finding it . . . but instead finding some other article that you had given up for lost. Well that happens to me pretty often when hunting for requested recipes. In January I was hunting for that recipe so important for Burns' Night banquets, Black Smooth buns, and while hunting it I found, guess what, that Icelandic cake (spelled with a V—was my face red? Why couldn't I have found it earlier, and why couldn't I find the Scotch recipe at the right time, too? Just human frailty, I guess. And now seeing I did find it, although too late for Burns' Night doings, here is the recipe for the buns . . . though to us Canadians they don't sound like what we call buns at all.

### Black Scotch Bun

First make a rich biscuit pastry (not as short as for pie pastry). Now combine and mix

## School lunches that perk up appetites

If you find that you are running out of ideas for sandwiches, the Consumer Section pamphlet "The Art of Making Sandwiches" will be very helpful. It is full of interesting ideas for fillings and you can get it free by writing to the Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. When you are making sandwiches, cut them in fourths or make them small enough so that they are easy to handle and cut them different ways. An interesting shape makes a sandwich much more appealing. And, do tuck a surprise in the school lunch. It may be just a favorite tart or cookie, but it gives a real lift to come across something you do not expect. If then, you have something hot, something substantial, something chewy and something gay your school children will not tire of their carried lunches.

Sandwiches are the mainstay of the school lunch, but they can certainly become a chore to those who have to make them up every day. If you are lucky enough to have a home freezer then you can have one sandwich session every month or so to make up enough sandwiches to last between sessions. Here are the directions for freezing sandwiches from the home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

They say that the sandwiches you are going to freeze should be made from fresh or day-old bread and advise you to use very little salad dressing because it may separate and soak into the bread. Most of the common sandwich fillings freeze very well, but you will have to make up sandwiches of egg and vegetable fillings every day. If you season your sandwiches here is something to remember. Seasonings change in storage so they must be added in slightly different amounts than when the fillings are to be used fresh.

Salt loses some of its strength so you would use a little extra and since pepper becomes

in with your hands all these: 2 cups flour, 1 lb. raisins, 1 lb. currants,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar,  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup blanched almonds,  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup candied peel, 1 tsp. ginger, 1 tsp. cinnamon,  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. black pepper,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. caraway seeds,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. soda,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cream of tartar, 1 cup sweet milk.

Line round cake tin with pastry and fill with the above mixture. Cover with thin topping of crust pressing dampened edges well. Prick top with fork and brush with sweet milk. Bake in moderate oven 350° F. for about 3 hours. Note: We are told that this improves with age and can be stored like a Christmas cake.

Bye bye for now... and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

stronger you would use just a little less of it. It is better to leave the sandwiches whole with the crusts on and to wrap them in freezer wrappings just as soon as you make them. You can package them individually or a number of them can be packed together. It is a good idea to pack enough for one lunch in each package then they can go right from freezer to lunch box. Since it takes one to two hours for a small package of sandwiches to thaw out at room temperature, if they were taken from the freezer in the morning they would be just ready to eat at lunch time.

Milk belongs in every school lunch box — whether it is taken as a beverage for the meal or in a cream soup or custard. Hot cocoa made with milk is another good lunch box suggestion, and so is an eggnog. Here is a recipe for a very nourishing milk drink from the home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture. It is called Chocolate Custard Drink and although it is not like a syrup that can be stored for a long time, this can be kept in the refrigerator for as long as you would keep fresh milk. It would be an especially good drink for an under-weight child, but it is delicious and very nourishing for anyone!

**Chocolate Custard Drink**  
2 1/2 squares unsweetened chocolate—  
oz. squares  
2 eggs  
6 cups milk  
Few grain salt  
2/3 cup sugar  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Melt chocolate in double boiler. Beat eggs slightly and stir in milk, salt and sugar. Add to the melted chocolate. Cook, stirring constantly, until the mixture coats the spoon. Remove from heat and beat until smooth. Add vanilla. Chill.

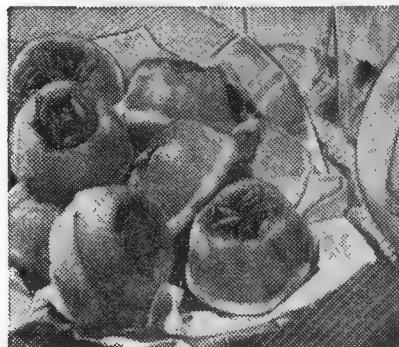
### Beef for breakfast

Beef for breakfast is recommended by the Central Council of Health Education in Great Britain, according to a Consumers' Research Bulletin. Beef, bacon and eggs, or fish provide the proper proteins at the right time and the Health Council suggests that the person who eats a high protein breakfast will be more energetic, more cheerful and less likely to put on weight than the one who eats little or no breakfast. The latter, says the report, is apt to be lethargic, irritable and anxious to over-eat at the evening meal.

Lower-cost cuts of beef are just as nutritious as the higher-priced roasts and steaks, the principal difference being in tenderness. When cooking methods are varied to suit the particular cuts, all can be tasty.

## Make All Four of these thrilling oven treats with One Basic Dough!

### 1. Chelsea Twirls



### 2. Orange Whirls



### 3. Date Eights



### 4. Jam Ring



### Versatility begins at home— with Active Dry Yeast!

One quick dough, thinly rolled, comes out four delectable dessert delights! Raised oh-h so tender n' light with amazing Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast! When you bake at home, get festive results with

Fleischmann's. Never fails. Keep a month's supply on hand.



Needs no  
refrigeration!

#### 1. INDIVIDUAL CHELSEA TWIRLS

Cream  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup butter or margarine and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar; divide into 12 greased muffin pans; add pecans. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, 2 tbsps. cinnamon and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar. Roll out one portion of dough 12 by 10 inches. Sprinkle with cinnamon mixture and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup raisins; beginning at long side, roll up loosely; cut into 12 slices. Place in pans. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.

#### 2. ORANGE WHIRLS

Boil together for 3 mins., stirring,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter or margarine, 1 tbsp. grated orange rind,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup orange juice and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup gran. sugar; cool. Spread half in greased 8-inch square pan. Roll out one portion of dough 16 by 10 inches; spread with rest of orange mixture; beginning at long side, roll up loosely; cut into 16 slices. Arrange in pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins.

#### 3. DATE EIGHTS

Combine  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. cut-up dates, 1 cup water,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup gran. sugar and 1 tbsp. butter or margarine; boil gently, stirring often, until thick; cool. Roll out one portion of dough into 12-inch square; spread half with half of filling and roll up to centre. Turn dough over; spread remainder with filling and roll up to centre. Cut into 12 slices. Place, well apart, on greased pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 14 to 16 mins. Spread hot buns with icing.

#### 4. JAM RING

Roll out one portion of dough 16 by 8 inches. Spread with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup thick jam and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chopped nuts; beginning at long side, roll up loosely. Twist dough from end to end; form into ring on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 25 to 30 mins. Spread hot ring with white icing; decorate top.

For baked goods light enough to **FLOAT** use **OGILVIE FLOUR**

Not quite, of course! You know as well as we do that, even with Ogilvie Flour, your cakes, bread and sweet rolls won't be light enough to float away! But they will be the lightest you've ever made! That's because Ogilvie 4-Way Vitamin Enriched Flour... the one flour that's right for all your baking... is very special flour, tested from field to kitchen to ensure perfect baking quality in your kitchen! For outstanding success next time you bake, try...

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## Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

I SEE so many varied questions stacked in a very impressive pile before me on my desk that I remind myself that I must be very business-like and concise (as if I could be either one) and see how many I can get crammed into the space below. I'll do my best.

Q.: How can dried peas be made soft and edible? I have boiled mine for hours and they never get soft. — (Mrs. E. J., Lundar, Man.)

A.: I think you should increase the soaking time and then you can reduce the cooking time. (Are there any comments from you readers who have had experience with this?)

Q.: How do you "redder" sugar to top cookies, etc.? — (Mrs. K. G. Huallen, Alta.)

A.: Sprinkle granulated sugar on large piece of stiff brown paper (or on a foil pie plate). Add a few drops of red coloring and stir in well with wooden spoon. Dry in moderate oven. Store in covered jar.

Q.: Can polar yarn sweaters be washed successfully? I knit a white one with red and black figures and do not wish to risk washing it if there is any danger of the colors "running". — (Mrs. K. G.)

A.: If the yarn bore a label that it was washable then it should be safe. You can defer the washing in water if you wash it dry in 1 part coarse salt to two parts cornmeal. Let stand over night, then brush off.

Q.: How much fresh yeast is equivalent to 1 pkge. of dry yeast? — (Mrs. D. N., Hazelridge, Man.)

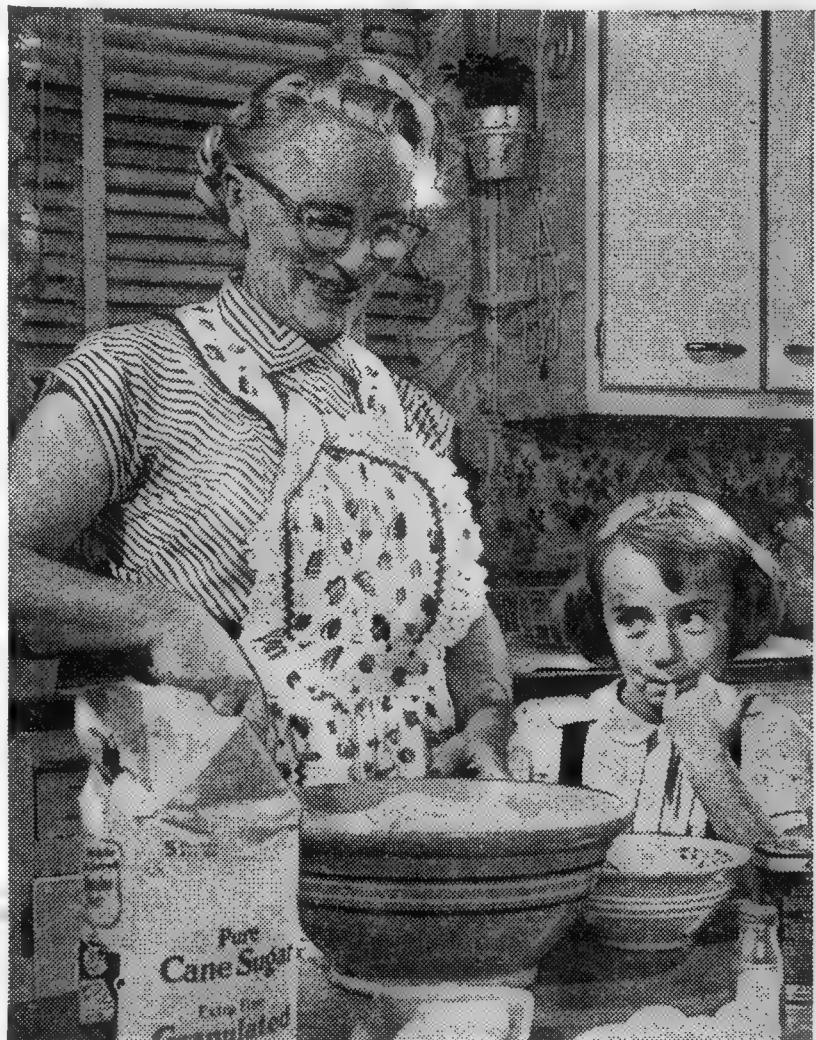
A.: You'll see the weight stated on the package . . . one ounce package is equal to one cake fresh yeast.

Q.: Could you tell me how a person enters exhibits for fairs and exhibitions? — (Mrs. P. S.)

A.: Write to Secretary of Fair Board at whatever city or town you wish to enter and they will send you their entry forms or

## Grandmothers are wonderful!

BY LOUISE PRICE BELL



THERE aren't many children who don't claim that their grandmother is the most wonderful person in the world, and if you are a grandmother you have a right to feel happy about this. If your grandchildren live in the same town with you they will come to see you often and probably tease you to make your "yummy home-made bread" or gingerbread, or kitchen. Many a grandparent and grandchild has grown close in the kitchen as the former stewed and baked or canned and the latter asked questions which the wise older person could answer with great wisdom. Children who have no grandmothers are indeed to be pitied for they miss a great deal. So if you are one take full advantage of your position in the youngsters' lives and squeeze the maximum of pleasure from the association.

keep your name on file until they have their list printed.

Q.: Where could I obtain liquid smoking for treating hams? I do not seem able to get any at local stores. — (Mrs. F. C.)

A.: My husband was a grocer for years and he tells me he never knew of this being hard to procure. When you are in your nearest city inquire at any large food store (I see by your address that you are close to Calgary).

Q.: I noticed in these pages last year where you were able to sell an auto knitter for some lady. Could you find a buyer for mine? — (Mrs. L. D.)

A.: No, I'm sorry I'm afraid I cannot. I found out when I mentioned it before that there were at least 100 auto knitters lying idle that were waiting to find new owners.

Q.: I once read in a paper an article telling about placing wallpaper on the floor and then covering it with two coats of good varnish. Do you know anything about this and do you think it would be durable? — (Mrs. T. D., Darlingford, Man.)

A.: This is a new one on me. I cannot imagine that it would prove very durable. (Any reader tried this and care to comment?)

Q.: You have invited readers

of fifty years or more to write in. We have taken the magazine for many years and have it paid up until 1972. I wonder if you could find out for me how long our family has taken it? — (Mrs. R. M., Vancouver, B.C.)

A.: I'm sorry that I have not access to the files as I do my writing from my home in Lethbridge, Alberta, but we are pleased that you have been in our family that long and that you plan to stay by us until '72 ... wonder if I'll still be around at that time.

Q.: Where can I obtain a bread mixer? (Repeat.)

A.: In January issue I told you I could only find one and that was manufactured in Ontario and went under the trade name of "dough blender". This January issue fell into the hands of an inventor in California and he writes me that he makes a bread mixer. Anyone interested can write to him (not to me): Mr. Harry H. Wilson, 10883 Arlington, Calif.

Note:—All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal, in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. If you wish a private reply enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope. Kindly limit one question to each letter. There is no charge for this service.

## Country Diary

SOMETIMES, but not often I'll admit, prairie March has been wet and mild, but its habit is to be cold and dry, with a wind sometimes east, sometimes north. Who can explain or justify the freakishness of March weather? Spring wanders northward, then stops and perhaps turns back and Boreas sweeps down with furious blusterings and icy snow flurries.

The calendar sets March 21st to be the first day of Spring, whatever the latitude and longitude and whatever the weather. But fashion and business and other elements of prevailing commerce that rule the world depend on precision and certainties—as far as is possible—and cannot be put off by caprices of storm and temperature.

It may be that in some favored parts the weather corresponds with the calendar—in fact, I can remember a time or two when the coincidence was perfect. But it was somewhat of a miracle, and I cannot say that this ideal state continued thus for long. We should avoid disappointment by philosophically accepting the whims of Spring weather that upset its regularity, proverbs to the contrary, for I have no faith in the old saw of the raging lion and the gambolling lamb.

What we have to believe and accept in faith is the serious movement already being planned to the South of us. Millions of birds are already on their way homeward bound in easy "Sounds kind of friendly in the dark," as one said.

stages. They follow the Spring in comfortable hops, resting and feeding by the way, but there is nothing haphazard about the venture, for they keep in mind a goal at the journey's end, though a thousand miles away. Those enthusiastic students of bird life, known as bird-banders, have been able to prove that birds return to the same tree or field that they left last Fall. The bird mind has its fixations.

When winter snowfall has thawed in the warming sun of late March and early April the result is mud, than which nothing looks more dull, in contrast to the whiteness that recently covered everything. A goodly portion of the farm is apt to stick to each rubber after a trip outdoors, much to the housewife's disgust. But there is one creature that thoroughly appreciates mud, the natural home of the frog. In the Fall it burrows down below the frost-line, cold and apparently lifeless and insensible to everything except a rise in temperature. Then in the new warmth of the Spring thaw it wakes and stretches, rises above ground and gurgles hoarsely with song—a melody of mud—the first song of Spring often long before the bird travellers return and the leaf-buds begin to swell. The sonorous chant of these musical mud-larks [to adapt a term] has special appeal to truck-drivers at night.



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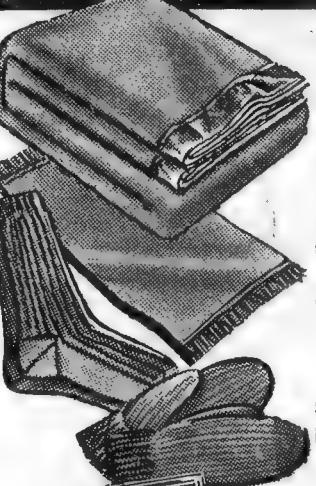


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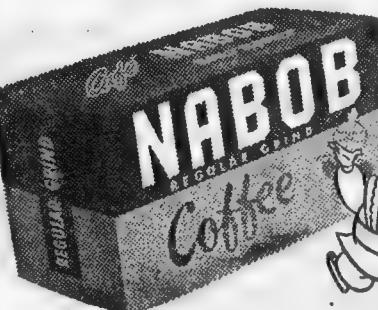
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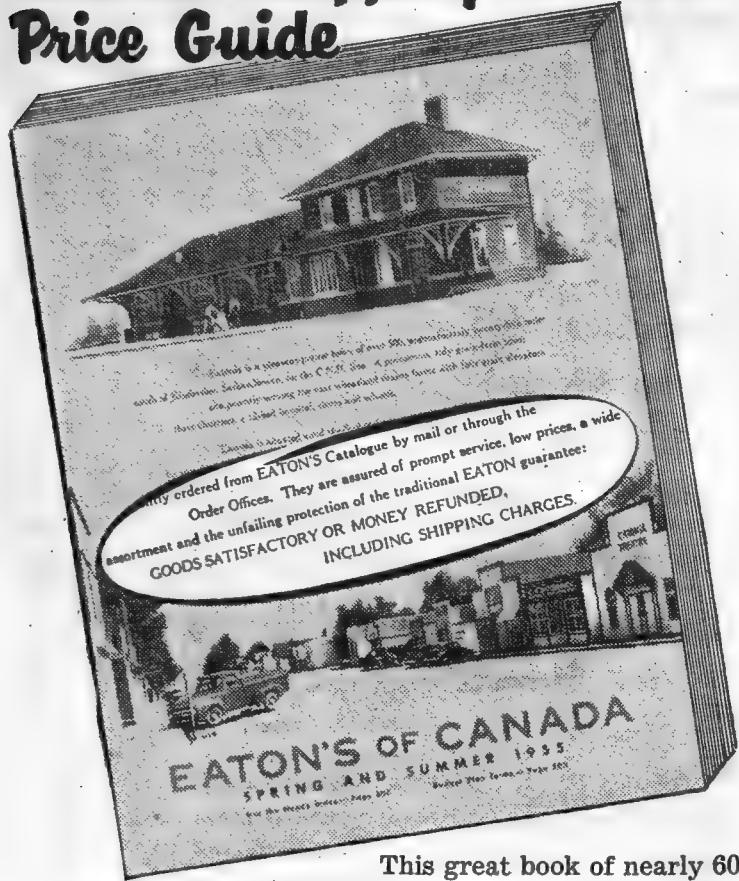
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## Try these ideas with eggs

EGGS are one of our most valuable foods.

Eggs may not be the answer to every meal problem, but they certainly come close to it. They can be used in some way in almost every course and in almost every meal. They not only taste good, but they are easy to cook as well. The home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, suggests some ideas for egg dishes.

A breakfast that contains protein is a satisfying one and makes one feel better and less tired after a long morning's work. Eggs can highlight breakfasts these winter days and there are ways to cook them that will please everyone in the family. Breakfast eggs can be served soft, medium or hard cooked, stirred, poached, scrambled or fried. For Sunday morning breakfast, French toast or a fluffy omelet served with crisp bacon adds variety.

Egg sandwiches go well with a piping hot bowl of soup, and, if there is a young cowboy in the family, be sure to serve him western sandwiches now and then. To make the filling, chop some onion, green pepper and ham and add to a well-beaten egg with a little milk and salt and pepper. Cook in a greased pan until egg is set on both sides. Hard cooked eggs may be sliced or devilled and used to garnish salads or luncheon dishes. Waffles or omelets served with sausages or bacon are other suggestions for lunch. Then, for a party luncheon, try cheese souffle.

Eggs may be baked and used in various casserole dishes. Try them in a medium thick cream sauce, cheese or tomato sauce seasoned with onion or a little curry. Pour it into a greased casserole and let stand a few minutes until depressions can be made in it with a spoon. Now break the whole eggs into the depressions and top with buttered crumbs. Bake this in a moderate oven just long enough to allow the eggs to become firm.

Now we cannot forget egg desserts such as custard with all its variations. One of the most interesting is Floating Island and children love it. In-

stead of putting the egg whites into the custard itself, whip them up separately and add sugar to make a meringue. Put this topping on the cooked custard and brown in a moderately slow oven.

There are many other delicious desserts made with eggs such as fruit whips, eclairs and cream puffs with rich cream or custard fillings. We must remember, too, the great variety of pies which may be made with a custard filling as a base. Lemon pie is always popular, but for variety use the same filling recipe for lemon tarts and top with a soft meringue.

Baked Alaska is one dessert that homemakers are often afraid to try. To make one place a brick of ice cream on a layer of sponge cake cut about an inch wider and an inch longer than the ice cream. Then prepare a meringue by beating egg whites and gradually adding sugar. Now cover the ice cream evenly with the meringue making sure that there is no ice cream showing. Bake on a board in a hot oven 450° F., until the meringue is slightly brown, about two to three minutes.

With eggs so plentiful, it is a good chance to make more of those delicious feathery-light sponge, angel or chiffon cakes. Left-over egg yolks may be used in a gold cake or sponge cake. A standard white cake may be topped with one of those fluffy egg-white frostings. For afternoon tea, place meringues and macaroons made with egg whites high on the list and, when making cookies for hungry youngsters, choose a recipe containing whole fresh eggs.

Lanolin is now available in handy aerosol containers for spraying a natural-looking sheen on hair gone dull, dry and brittle. It can be used either as a scalp conditioner before shampooing or as a hair dressing after. For best results, hold the push-button container 12 to 14 inches from the hair and move it around the head. "Freson", the chemical compound which also acts as the cold-making agent in most mechanical refrigerators, provides the dispensing pressure.

## The Dishpan Philosopher

WE don't seem happy any more! The once blithe spirit fails to soar above the doleful daily news that press and radio diffuse. And every day we run across folks like ourselves who feel the loss of comfortable points of view, which almost everybody knew before oppressive clouds of fear had clogged the fountain-heads of cheer. Now, plainly, there is no escape from threats of war in dreadful shape. We feel that any day may find the surging masses of mankind embattled in a monstrous fight beyond which lies an endless night.

Against that backdrop, stark and grim, with stage-lights flickering and dim, the drama of our times is cast and we, the players, stand aghast, for now the script has lost the key to that brave world that was to be.

# Beauty for milady's hands

SUPPLYING women with nail polish and other finger-tip beauty aids is a multi-million-dollar business which did not even exist 40 years ago.

But manicuring itself is one of the oldest of the cosmetic arts. Recently an excavation in southern Babylonia turned up a solid gold manicure set which was in use in 3200 B.C. Found with the set was a good quantity of green and black substance used in ancient times to color the lips, eyes and fingernails. In those days, however, these beauty aids belonged not to women but to men!

Later in history it seems that Cleopatra, the glamor-girl of the Nile, preferred the juice of the henna plant for her color job. She achieved a smoky rust or robin red with overtones of gold or suntan. But Cleo saw to it that the color of nails was governed by the strictest social code: The Queen's nails were of the most brilliant hue and the color faded down the social scale to the slaves whose fingernails had no tint whatever.

In ancient China, rank was measured by the length of the fingernails. The longer the nails, the more obvious it was that their owner had never soiled his or her hands with manual labor—ten inches was considered a pretty fair beginning. Sheaths were worn to protect these elegant nails and even today Oriental women of position sometimes wear a little-finger sheath, often beautifully designed and carved in gold.

The western world had its own ideas. At the court of Marie Antoinette, hands could not be washed for a week after a manicure lest it be spoiled. The Puritans in England and colonial North America, on the other hand, as late as 1770 enforced a law—that any woman who coerced a man into marriage through the use of paint, powder or similar artifices could be tried as a witch. No wonder manicures went out of fashion for centuries!

In 1875, however, an American lady re-introduced the subject with a treatise called the

"Ugly Girl Papers, or Hints for the Toilet" in which she stressed the importance of hand care. To soften their hands, ladies were told to wear overnight large cloth mittens filled with wet oatmeal; to remove callouses, the papers suggested holding the hand on a rapidly turning grindstone for a moment or two. A touch of color was recommended by this seer, whose nail paste recipe—to be concocted in the kitchen—produced a batch large enough to tint the nails of an army.

The first manicure preparation sold commercially came on the market in 1911—a chemical to dissolve nail cuticle. Five years later women who had been using powder or paste or buffing their nails were able to buy liquid nail polish—colorless, of course. No woman dreamed of using color until a young beauty-salon operator named Peggy Sage made a tinted polish for a friend of hers who was appearing as Carmen at New York's Metropolitan Opera. The feminine half of the audience was enchanted and the result was the U.S. vogue for colored nails.

The first nail polishes were transparent with various shades of red obtained through the use of dyes. A radical change took place in the early 40's when cream-type polishes were introduced through the use of white and colored pigments to produce an opaque finish instead of the clear or dye-colored transparent finishes.

## FILMS DEVELOPED

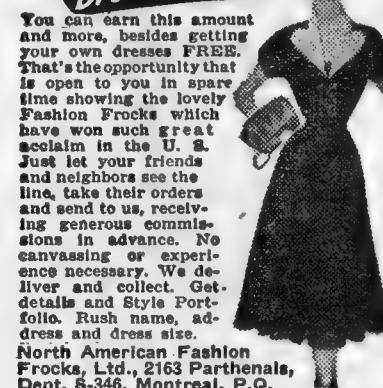
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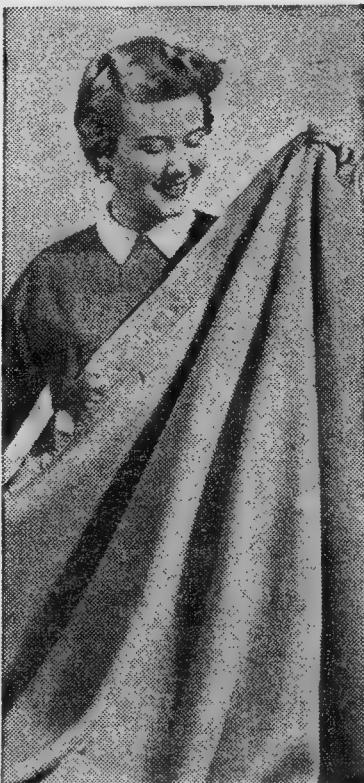
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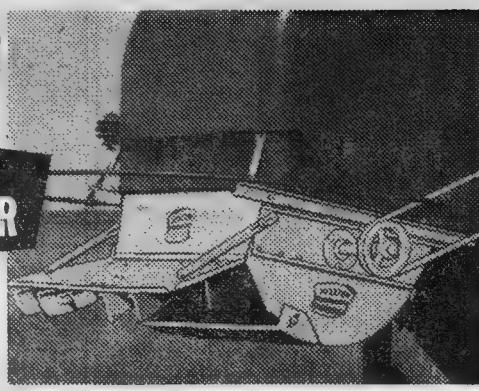
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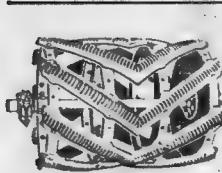
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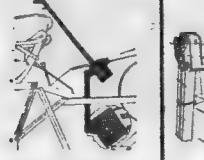
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## When Uncle Pete retired, and un-retired

By HARRY J. BOYLE

EVERYBODY in our community was excited when the news got around that Uncle Pete had sold his ranch in Alberta and was coming home to retire. It was true that he hadn't been home in thirty-seven years and that only the older folks remembered him, but there was something exciting about having him come back and live out his life in the place where he was born and where the most of his relatives still lived.

The fact that he was coming back also gave some consolation to the dozen or so men who had wanted to go West but who had remained either because of family pressure or fear of the unknown.

I had visions of a tall man with a rangy gait wearing a big hat and faded dungarees, showing the darker mark where the holster and belt had draped across his front and back. I also had visions of a lean, weather-beaten face and a scraggly moustache. He would definitely walk right out of the pages of Zane Grey.

Since Uncle Jim was a widower it was decided that Uncle Pete would stay with him. His housekeeper, a buxom Swedish-born widow of forty prepared

by baking enough stuff for a church social. I was privileged to sample it and go along with Uncle Jim to meet the train.

It was one of those grey November nights with a slight, pencil-line drizzle of rain. We stood next to the bay where the telegraph key clocked along, sheltered by the overhanging roof. My heart was thumping faster than the telegraph key when the train swooshed in and then shuddered to a stop and the conductor swung out and there was one passenger.

#### No He-Man

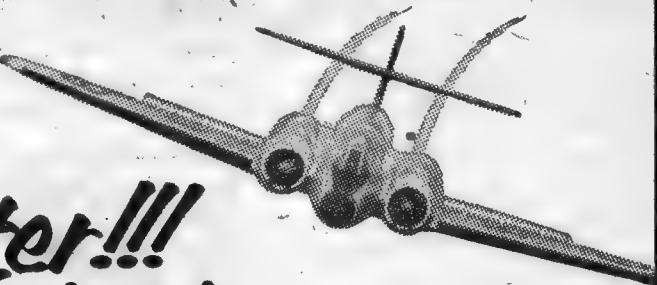
It couldn't be Uncle Pete. This was a little fellow in checkered overcoat and a battered felt hat carrying an enormous suitcase buckled up with two hame straps. He was clean shaven and when he spoke, his voice was high and reedlike and I almost died on the spot.

"Jim, you old son of a gun!"

"Pete . . . Pete . . . by golly I would have recognized you any-how!"

I was silent all the way back to the farm but the two brothers rattled on. When we got to the house I noticed the quick and nervous energy of the prodigal brother. He took three steps to one of Uncle Jim and when we

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went into the kitchen he embraced the housekeeper and soundly kissed her on the cheek. With her face flaming she fled to the safety of the pantry.

When I recovered from my initial shock of finding that the wiry, little man had actually been a rancher, everything looked up. Uncle Pete had stories about cattle roundups and searching for strays and picking up wild horses and fights and it was all fun.

Sometimes, like when he talked about his first sod shanty in Saskatchewan and of the death of his friend, Lars Olsen during a blizzard, it wasn't funny, but it was exciting. One thing certain, Uncle Jim had a lot of company that winter and Olga was busy with the tea-pot and the cookie plate.

The rumors flew thick and fast. Somebody reported that he had seen Pete in the bank and he had deposited fifty thousand dollars. Others said that he still owned ten thousand acres of rangeland. When Pete danced with Aggie Henderson at the Presbyterian Church box social there was a general rumor that he had come back to marry his childhood sweetheart. Others were convinced that Uncle Pete was going to buy the local general store. I think the fact that he was only sixty-two was a rather shocking thing for all the people in our district. Most of the farmers worked until their rheumatics made it impossible for them to go on, and then they moved into little houses in the village and sat around waiting for death, or else kept on pestering the oldest boy who stayed on the farm. Sixty-two seemed like middle age and not a fit time for retirement.

#### Horse Trades

Underneath it all, Uncle Jim, who was seventy-one, probably had much the same feeling, because he kept on working although everybody said he had at least ten good mortgages in the safety deposit box in the bank. As I look back on it, I think when the novelty wore off, Pete's talking about sections and double sections and hitching up and driving sixty miles to Calgary for a dance began to wear on the older brother. Where Uncle Jim with the natural tendency of age talked about the "bay horse I got from Ned Conlon", Uncle Pete talked about two carload of horses he sold in the spring of "so and so" for work in the lumber woods.

Then, there was also the matter of R. B. Bennett. Uncle Pete talked about "R. B.", as if they had been neighbors and the time he had been feeling a bit too good and had gone slithering down the steps of the Palliser and "R. B." had picked him up and steered him into a cafe for some coffee. It was somehow sacrilegious to talk about such a man in that way, and in addition it was highly improbable that any Conservative would be so charitable.

Pete had a wonderful time during maple syrup time. This was a part of his boyhood memories and he enjoyed every minute, but as the warm days started he talked wistfully of the Chinooks and more and more of his talk was about "new breaking" with a steamer. Then we found out that he hadn't actually sold his land. He had been dickering all winter by mail with a neighbor to take it over for him, but one day he asked me to write a letter for him. He formally severed negotiations and gave me a dollar for writing the letter with the admonition to not mention it to a soul.

As the days warmed up he would sit on a block on the sunny side of the driving shed and smoke his pipe. He wasn't inclined to "yarn" and my mother started to worry about his liver. One Saturday night he wasn't ready to come home from town when my father was ready and we heard him coming down the road blithely singing his repertoire which consisted of "I've Got No Use For The Women" and "Bury Me Not On The Lone Prair-eee". He didn't go to church the next morning, but his presence was felt because every knot of after-church gossips had a different version of the wrecking of Hing Lees Cafe, which incident-

ally Uncle Pete settled for in a handsome way.

By the following Saturday Uncle Pete was gone, back to the ranch, and he was followed the following week by the blushing Olga, who confessed that they were getting married in Easter week in Calgary. This really gave the community something to talk about. After a time it died down, but it started up two years later when we received the news of the

birth of a son and the fact that Uncle Pete was farming a section and a half.

Uncle Jim didn't say anything. In fact it was at least three years before he started retailing second-hand stories about his "younger brother in the West."

## Dangers of Colon Troubles

FREE BOOK — Explains Related Chronic Ailments



Learn about Colon troubles, Stomach conditions, Piles and other rectal conditions. Causes, effects and treatment. 130-page book sent FREE. McCleary Clinic and Hospital, C376 Elms Blvd., Excelsior Springs, Mo.

## Alberta's Largest Hatchery STEWART'S R.O.P. SIRED CHICKS

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ORDER NOW!

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All chicks 100% Canadian R.O.P. Sired  
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Increases crop  
yield 25 bushels  
an acre using...



## 'MERGAMMA' C

This letter was written by Mr Abe Reimer, Hussar, Alta., to Chipman Chemicals Limited:

"Gentlemen:  
"My land, which has been farmed for twenty years, was so infested with wireworms that I was only getting a return of 10 bushels of wheat per acre. But after treating my seed with 'Mergamma' C, the yield jumped to 35 bushels per acre. My neighbors report that they, too, have increased their yields considerably by using 'Mergamma' C."

#### HERE ARE OTHER LETTERS:

"Over a period of years I have had yield increases of from 8 to 9 bushels per acre by using 'Mergamma' C — an increase of about \$10 to \$12 per acre. I recommend that anyone troubled with wireworms should use 'Mergamma' C."  
D. GORANSON, WEYBURN, SASK.

"That 'Mergamma' C is great stuff! You can see the difference in the stubble between the area where I used 'Mergamma' C and where I didn't. I believe the only way to find out if there are wireworms in your soil is to try 'Mergamma' C."

WM. HOGAN, OYEN, ALTA.

'MERGAMMA' C is the original, proven, dual-purpose seed dressing . . . kills wireworms and controls seed-borne diseases in ONE operation.

#### COMPANION SEED DRESSINGS

'ABOL' for wireworms

only.

'AGROX' C for seed-borne diseases only.

Order from your local dealer — NOW!

## CHIPMAN CHEMICALS LIMITED

Leaders in the Field of Crop Protection

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ON ARMY  
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**NEW STOCK!**

Here's your opportunity to stock up on quality items at spring savings!

#### GREASES

Leading brand lines — Imperial, B.A., White Rose.

#### CHASSIS GUN GREASE

Imperial General-purpose grease.  
25-lb. container \$4.95 100-lb. keg \$15.95

#### TRANSMISSION GREASE

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25-lb. pail \$4.95 100-lb. keg \$15.95

#### CUP OR MICA AXLE GREASE

3-lb. tins 45c 25-lb. pails \$2.95

#### ENAMEL (METAL FINISHING)

Ideal for painting and touching up machinery and equipment. Highest quality. Made to strict government standards. QUICK DRYING! Regular \$9.80 per gal.

GREY QUARTS  
Per gal. \$3.75 Per qt. \$1.00 Quarts Only  
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SEND 25% DEPOSIT with order, or, if you wish to save C.O.D. charges, send money order to full amount. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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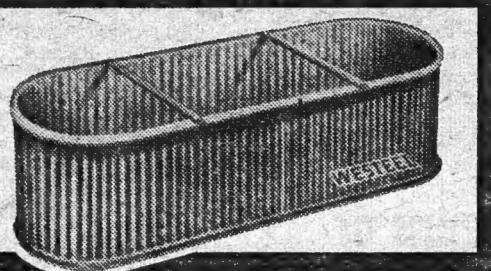
607 - 2nd Street E., Calgary, Alta.  
"The Best Address in the West for Value"

**LONELY ? LET CANADA'S GREATEST Club** introduce you to lonely people desiring early marriage. Many with means. Widows with farms or city property. City and country girls. Members from coast to coast. Proven results since 1924. Free particulars in plain, sealed envelopes. G. C. Club, Box 128, Calgary, Alberta.

**DEPRESSION PRICES — WE SELL CHEAP.** Save 50% to 75% on new and used Tractor Parts — all makes — we undersell. We also sell good used Tractor Tires. Duty is free on tractor parts. Surplus Tractor Parts Corp., Fargo, North Dakota.



**Built Better-to Last Longer**



Comparison will prove  
WESTEEL is  
the better buy.

## WESTEEL STOCK TROUGH

- Made of heavy gauge corrugated galvanized steel.
- Strongly braced to retain its shape.
- Rolled edge joints for solidity.
- Withstands the toughest treatment.
- Resists rust, wear, and weather.
- Costs little to buy—nothing to maintain.
- Gives reliable service for years to come.

Ask your local dealer or write for prices and particulars.

3 SIZES  
Length Width Height  
7' 2' 23"  
8' 2' 6" 23"  
10' 3' 23"

OUR  
50th YEAR  
IN THE WEST

AN ALL-CANADIAN CANADA-WIDE ORGANIZATION  
**WESTEEL**  
PRODUCTS LIMITED  
WINNIPEG REGINA SASKATOON CALGARY  
EDMONTON VANCOUVER TORONTO MONTREAL

## Control of Public Lands in Alberta

In 1930, when the Dominion Government handed over the administration of Alberta's natural resources to the Province, the Department of Lands and Mines was organized. Due to increasing development of resources, it became necessary to divide the original department. On April 1, 1949, the Department of Mines and Minerals and the Department of Lands and Forests were established.

The Lands Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests has jurisdiction over most of the public lands in the



Province. Involving over 90 million acres, these public lands make up more than half of Alberta's entire land area. Approximately nine million acres are now held under lease, permit or sale agreement. Eighty million acres still unoccupied contain as much arable land as all other undeveloped areas in Canada.

Public lands in Alberta are classified into settlement and non-settlement zones. Where the land is covered with timber in commercial quantities, where the land is unsuitable for cultivation, or where it is too isolated, settlement



is not permitted. It may be leased for commercial purposes or made available for grazing on a temporary basis.

In the settlement zone public lands are made available under various regulations such as homestead, grazing or cultivation leases and sale agreement.

Alberta's homestead lease policy governs the disposal of public lands suitable for settlement. A person may apply for a lease on a half-section of land. Payment for the lease, including taxes, is made on a crop-share basis on completion of specified residence and cultivation duties, title may be obtained for a nominal sum.

The homestead lease policy of the Department of Lands and Forests has been well received. More than 6,000

leases, representing about three million acres, are now in effect.

The Provincial Parks is a part of the Department of Lands and Forests. The function of the Board is to preserve and help develop special locations in Alberta suitable for recreational purposes. All provincial parks are game preserves. The work of development is done on a co-operative basis, with the Alberta Government and local residents sharing responsibility. About 25 parks have been established to date, with other areas reserved for future development.

The Technical Division of the Department of Lands and Forests is responsible for the preparation of legal descriptions, maps and plans of public lands in Alberta, land surveys for settlement purposes and aerial photographs.

The largest stock of Alberta maps is carried by the Technical Division. These to all government offices.

The Aerial Photographic Library, maintained by the Technical Division, consists of photographs of the entire province. Over 135,000 photographs are on file. From mosaics, prepared by joining and overlapping photographs, pictorial coverage is obtained of any desired area.

Alberta's aerial photographs are of tremendous importance to province and public alike. Industrialists, oil companies, geologists, and prospectors find them invaluable. They are also used by municipal officials for assessment purposes and for reconnaissance in road construction.



They serve an important purpose in locating bridges and in town planning. A forest inventory is being made from the photographs and their use in forest management is indispensable.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS  
IS  
YOUR BUSINESS

# Eaton's catalogue was a best seller even in 1905

ACCORDING to Eaton's mail-order catalogue, of fifty years ago, a very satisfactory bustle could be bought for as little as twenty-five cents, a fifty-pound chest of the finest black tea for only \$23.00 and a rubber-tired show or race wagon plus a set of light double carriage harness for just \$200.00.

Canadians of the present generation probably think of the mail-order catalogue as a fairly recent development. But as far back as 1905 Eaton's catalogue had been, for over twenty years, popular reading matter for people all across the country. Eaton's first store opened for business in 1869 and the first catalogue, a modest list of goods that could be obtained by ordering through the mail, was distributed to visitors to the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto in the Fall of 1884.

By the year 1905 Eaton's catalogue—though it inevitably suffers by comparison with today's issue—was a well illustrated, 178-page book and few things needed for the person, the home or the farm were missing from the pages. In fact, a reading through of a copy of the 50-year-old catalogue shows it to be a comprehensive presentation of the goods offered for sale by Canadian merchants of

the day, and an interesting review of life as it was lived in the Canada of a half century ago.

It included everything from house furnishings to sporting goods; from groceries to harness; from racks of hooks to the wonderful world of fashion.

Wearing apparel took up exactly half of the 1905 catalogue's space. In contrast to modern practice, where women's wear takes the lead-off position in almost any catalogue, gents' and boys' furnishings filled the first 25 pages of the 1905 book.

Men's overcoats of cheviot, melton, beaver cloth or tweed could be had for from \$6.50 to \$25.00, the most expensive one in the book. If you insisted on paying more you were obviously looking for something in fur. And you could have it, too; raccoon for anywhere from \$32.50 to \$100.00; Canadian beaver or Persian lamb for \$215.00; black beaver shell with fine dark otter collar and extra fine mink lining for \$195.00. A line in bold-face type across the bottom of the page stated "Our furs are all made by Expert Furriers and Whole Skins only are used."

Gents' and boys' furnishings made a fine display. Celluloid dickies, whatever they were, were sold for 20 or 25 cents each. There were stiff linen collars, stand-up style, 2, 2 3/4 or 2 1/2 inches high. Imported Turkish bathrobes with two pockets, "girdle" and attached hood could be had in stripes or fancy patterns. Full length night shirts in cotton twill or flannelette were listed for as little as 50 cents. Long handled underwear in a variety of styles filled two full pages; no other kind of underwear for men or boys was shown at all. You could have the long-handled kind, of course, in several weights of wool, in pure silk or in perforated best quality chamois.



NEW "Double-Duty"  
**CHOREMASTER**  
TILLER/MOWER

\$140.70

Mower  
Attachment

\$58.45

Every farmer and gardener can use this Time-Saving, Money-Saving CHOREMASTER 12 months in the year.

• CULTIVATES • MOWS  
• MULCHES • TILLS

with ease and efficiency.

WRITE FOR FULL PARTICULARS  
ARRANGE FOR A DEMONSTRATION

**Wm. GOETT  
CO. LTD.**

Saskatchewan and Alberta  
DISTRIBUTORS  
823 - 10th Avenue West, Calgary,  
ALBERTA



"Even if he was a salesman  
I still don't think you should  
have slammed the door in  
his face."

Ladies' and lassies' furs and could, if he wished, live a well-furbelows, naturally enough, took up more than twice as much space in the catalogue as was allotted to men's wear. A good deal of what was displayed would have to be seen — or remembered — to be believed.

There were wasp waists and whalebone corsets, and hats that mounted everything from a single ostrich plume to a pair of life-sized parrots.

There is a certain nostalgia in the pages of the old catalogue, too. At-Home Cards and Visiting Cards recall a formality that has been lost to modern living and a selection of organs brings back days when Canadian families largely provided their own entertainment. Of the large collection of sheet music, some of the titles (Popular Songs, 23 cents per copy) are still familiar — "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Stay in Your Own Back Yard", "Bedilia", "In the Good Old Summer Time".

Books were a big item, taking up eight pages in all and ranging from the classics to such well remembered titles as Elsie Dinsmore, What Katy Did Next, and Risen From The Ranks, by Horatio Alger.

It is not hard to believe that a Canadian householder in 1905

## Civilization cradle

A SCIENTIFIC team will study Jarmo in Iraq, the world's oldest village, during the coming winter. The team is headed by Prof. R. J. Braidwood of the University of Chicago Oriental Institute. The expedition has already left for Iraq.

Jarmo was unearthed a couple years ago and is said to be 7,000

## Save those sickly and unthrifty PIGS

**"ViGoR"** MEDICATED PIG STARTER  
OR  
**"ViGoR"** MEDICATED HOG GROWER  
BOTH THESE NEW COMPLETE FEEDS CONTAIN  
**"SULFATON"**

Rhinitis and Enteritis may be just two of the causes or effects of Unthrifit, but whether these are present or not, SULFATON — the new Feed Ingredient — assists in the rapid salvaging of Unthrifty Swine in a manner hitherto considered impossible . . . positively . . . economically.

GET FULL INFORMATION ON THESE AMAZING  
NEW MEDICATED FEEDS  
FROM YOUR LOCAL FEED DEALER  
OR WRITE TO

**BURNS & CO. LIMITED — FEED DIVISION**  
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR

CALGARY, EDMONTON, REGINA, PRINCE ALBERT, WINNIPEG.

period. Fifty years ago 200 about two million copies. Incidents of paper were required to dentally, it is interesting that, print the 300,000 copies that like the 1905 issue, the current were distributed. A recent Eaton's catalogue also carries a catalogue, with pages sized front cover illustration of a about 10 x 13 inches, called for western Canadian scene — in more than 4,000 tons of paper, this case, an attractive color contains almost 700 pages and lists some 14,000 items of merchandise. More than 125 pages are in four colors and an additional 48 pages in two colors.

Delving back through back issues of the catalogue is more than an amusing pastime. The exact number of catalogues printed today is not publicly known, but the statement has been authoritatively made that the Eaton's book goes into value of succeeding issues of the book in reflecting changes of living conditions has long been recognized by students of half the homes of Canada, which the country's passing social would mean a circulation of scene.

## MACDONALD'S BRIER

Canada's Standard Smoke

for Every Equipment Need



check your 1954 - 55

## NANCE Catalogue

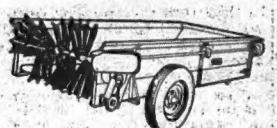
showing Field-Proven Farm Equipment for every purpose

### HERE ARE TWO EXAMPLES

#### 1. THE KELLY RYAN "SPREADAWAY"

A versatile multi-purpose unit. Manure spreader, Bunk feeder, Self-unloading wagon or Farm trailer! Price on rubber

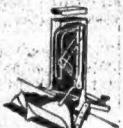
\$540.60



#### 2. THE LEACH SEED TREATER

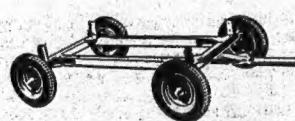
Treats grain as you load! Easily installed on any standard type 4" - 6" - 8" tube grain auger. Mechanism operated by auger's action. 500 users in '54 say they are tops. Price

\$12.85



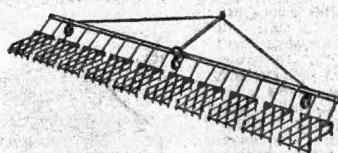
#### AND THREE NEW ITEMS

#### 3. "ASSEMBLE YOUR OWN" FARM WAGON



Priced from \$150.00

#### 4. MALCO FLEXIBLE HARROW DRAWBARS



Completely flexible and adjustable. Folds into transport position. Available in 3 sizes — 8, 10 and 12 section. Satisfaction or money refunded. Prices from \$149.75 for the 8-section.

#### 5. THE SOIL MOVER

For soil conservation work, irrigation, general farm use. Hydraulically powered . . . scrapes and dumps loads of from 27 cu. ft. up! Two models, priced at \$560.20 and \$611.85. Larger models available. It's the time-saving economical way to move soil!



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The Kelly Ryan "Spreadaway"

Leach Seed Treater

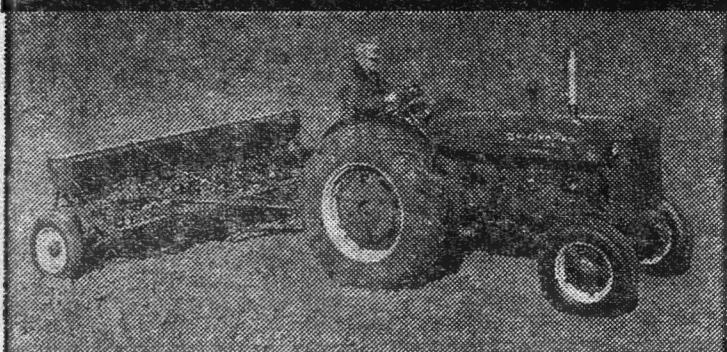
"Assemble Your Own" Farm Wagon

Malco Flexible Harrow Drawbars

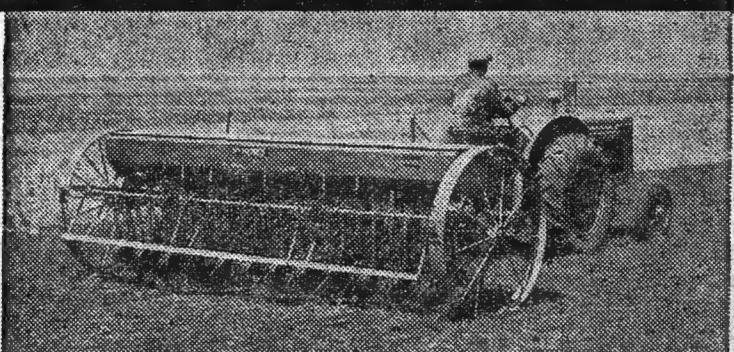
The Soil Mover

# SEED WITH SPEED AND ACCURACY with a MCCORMICK GRAIN DRILL

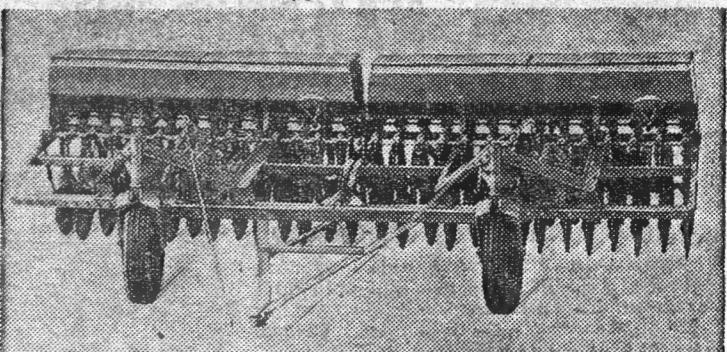
THERE'S A TYPE AND SIZE TO FIT YOUR FARM EXACTLY



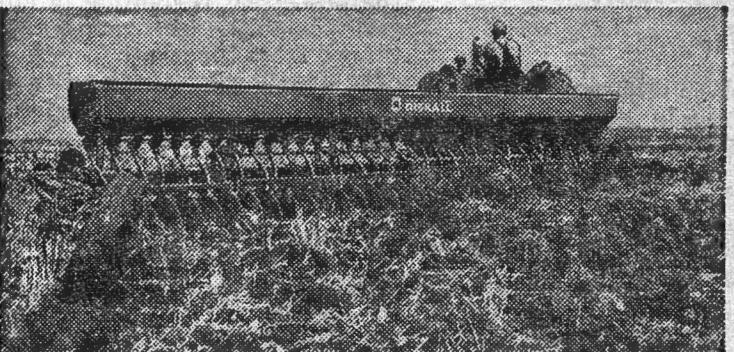
**McCORMICK LOW-WHEEL GRAIN DRILLS** that seed accurately at 5 mph. The low pressure rubber-tired wheels don't clog with dirt—reduce slippage on hillsides. Available with 16, 20, 22, 24 and 28 markers with 6-inch spacing. Shown above is McCormick Model M plain drill. Model MF (with fertilizer attachment) is also available. Both models supplied with high steel wheels if desired.



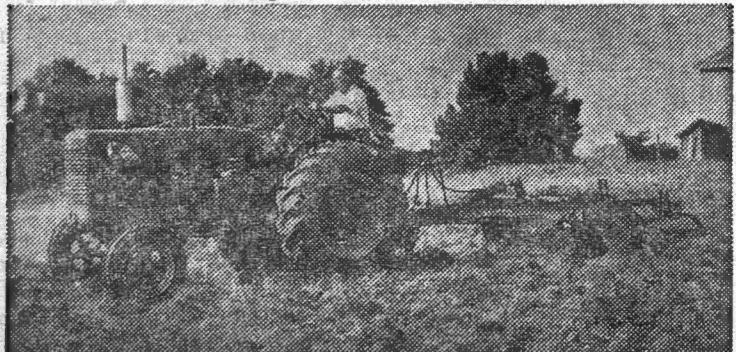
**McCORMICK WESTERN GRAIN DRILLS.** Precision-engineered specially for the Western farmer, McCormick Western Grain Drills are ruggedly built for maintained accuracy at modern tractor speeds. These big drills that seed up to 50 acres per day are light draft and easy running. Available with 20, 24 and 28 markers with 6-inch spacing. They drill any seed from flax to peas.



**McCORMICK MODEL K6 PRESS DRILL.** Here's the drill to get seeding done quickly and properly under dry conditions. Presses the soil firmly around the seed to conserve moisture and prevent blowing. Basically the Model K6 is a 14 marker machine with 6-inch spacing—but 2 such units may be accurately duplexed to form a 28 marker drill with unusual flexibility and efficiency. This drill is also available in 20 and 24 marker sizes. K7 drills in same sizes available with 7-inch spacing.



**IMPROVED McCORMICK DISKALL.** With the acre-eating McCormick Diskall you work and seed an 18-foot strip in a single trip. Features a low, heavy-duty hitch for efficient operation behind your tractor. Made for the farmer with a lot of ground to cover fast, the McCormick Diskall is the answer to today's demand for big capacity, low-cost tilling and seeding. Also available in 9, 12, and 15 foot sizes.



**McCORMICK NO. 10 HEAVY-DUTY CULTIVATOR.** This deep-working cultivator penetrates hardpan with minimum disruption of topsoil—you combine seedbed preparation with a deep-down basic tillage job, resulting in greater moisture absorption, reduced topsoil run-off and blowing, bigger and better crops. Heavy box-section beam frame is all-welded for super-strength. Heat-treated alloy steel shanks have exclusively designed teeth or sweeps. Hydraulic or ratchet-type hand lift. Seven, 10 and 13-foot widths—with 4-foot extensions available for each.

## WIDEST RANGE OF GRAIN DRILLS ANYWHERE

A good seeding job is good insurance of a good harvest—with the right McCormick drill you'll do it better—cover each seed right—seed each foot of ground evenly—cover the acres faster. You'll see a difference when the crop comes up.

Many different combinations of types, sizes and furrow openers make it easy to pick a McCormick Drill that fits your farm exactly.

See your IH Dealer about that new McCormick grain drill now! He will help you choose the model you should be using, based on your farming practice and your acreage. Let him show you how a McCormick Grain Drill will help you seed more accurately for bigger crops and profits. He's headquarters for all spring tillage and seeding equipment.



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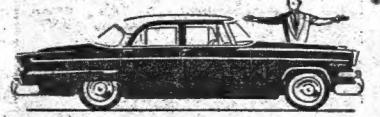
# the all-new '55 DODGE

—biggest car in the low-price field!



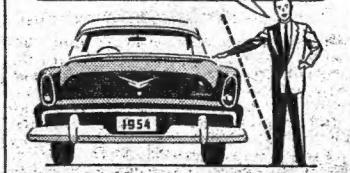
Manufactured in Canada  
by Chrysler Corporation of Canada, Limited

Here's a real buy!  
**BIGGEST CAR IN THE LOW-PRICE FIELD** . . .



... more than a foot longer than before  
... yet prices are down with the lowest!

Dodge for '55 is wider at the hipline for more seating room, and slimmer up toward the roof to emphasize its long, low, road-hugging stability.



HB54

New MOTION-DESIGN styling gives this low-hooded beauty The Forward Look of motion, even when the car is standing still!



Regent

WHAT A  
VIEW!



New Horizon windshield—the first true wrap-around design—has swept-back corner posts so glass wraps way around at top as well as bottom. More visibility at eye level!

NEW FABRICS! NEW COLOURS!  
Rich, new quality interiors.



And such COMFORT on wider, chair-height Dodge seats.



A flick of your finger moves the new dash-mounted Elite Control—the selector lever for PowerElite automatic transmission.

Pick your power!  
V-8 or 6's



Three great new engines—up to 167 horsepower!

Dodge for '55  
RIDES LIKE THE BIG CAR IT IS!

Longer wheelbase and wider front tread for greater stability. New, extra-strong frame. New, 25% wider rear springs. Oilflow shock absorbers provide just-right control on bumps of all kinds.



More and more motorists are  
SWITCHING TO DODGE . . .  
the all-new beauty for '55!



*There's a car in the Dodge family  
that's right for your family!*

Twelve beautiful Mayfair, Regent, and Crusader models from which to choose. And for the most glamorous car on the Canadian Road, see the fashion-leading Dodge Custom Royal with 183-h.p. V-8 engine.

See your  
**DODGE-DESOTO**  
dealer now for the  
**BIG BUY of the year!**